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N4B404XQ	Award in Education and Training	Rivers Centre	24/02/2015	Tu	09:30	12:00	15 wks	£275	£0	Essential knowledge and skills for preparing, planning and delivering courses to adults
Health & Complementary Therapies										
A4E400XA	Emergency First Aid at Work	Rivers Centre	06/03/2015	Fr	10:00	16:00	1 day	£48	£38	You will receive a certificate and manual upon successful completion
A4E402XA	Indian Head Massage	Rivers Centre	14/03/2015	Fr	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Massage techniques for face, head, neck, shoulders and upper arms
A4B205XA	Massage - Improvers	Rivers Centre	13/01/2015	Tu	19:00	21:00	5 wks	£55	£44	Expand your knowledge of massage therapy
A4B208XA	Reflexology - an Introduction	Rivers Centre	24/02/2015	Tu	19:00	21:00	5 wks	£55	£44	A safe natural therapy which can revitalise you
Flowers & Gardens										
C4F403XA	Floral Design - Bridal Flowers	Rivers Centre	07/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Create floral arrangements, bouquets and buttonholes for that special day
C4F400XA	Floral Design - Spring/Easter	Rivers Centre	21/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Celebrate the arrival of Spring and get inspiring ideas for displays
Computer Skills										
F4C400XA	Digital Photography and Photoshop Elements - Beginners	Rivers Centre	14/01/2015	We	19:00	21:00	5 wks	£55	£44	Learn the basics of image editing
F4F405XA	e-bay - all you need to know about selling	Rivers Centre	31/01/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	How to set up an account and sell safely
F4F402XA	Excel Level 1 - an Introduction	Rivers Centre	17/01/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Learn to use spreadsheets and simple formulae
F4E404XA	Excel Level 2 - Improvers	Rivers Centre	06/02/2015	Fr	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	More features of Excel - including database functions and customising charts and graphs
F4F406XA	Excel Level 3 - Advanced	Rivers Centre	28/02/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Advanced features including scenarios, templates and problem solving (goal seek, data validation)
F4E401XA	Excel Level 3 - Formulae and Functions	Rivers Centre	20/03/2015	Fr	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Functions such as logical and lookup, statistical
F4F407XA	Excel Level 3 - Macros	Rivers Centre	07/03/2015	Sat	13:15	16:15	1 day	£20	£16	Automate your tasks by recording and running macros
F4F408XA	Excel Level 3 - Pivot Tables and charts	Rivers Centre	07/03/2015	Sat	09:45	12:45	1 day	£20	£16	Summarise and analyse large amounts of data
F4F411XA	HTML Web Page Creation - an Introduction	Rivers Centre	21/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Learn what HTML is and decide if you want to use it to create your own web page
F4F403XA	iCloud & iCloud Drive	Rivers Centre	24/01/2015	Sat	10:00	14:00	1 day	£27	£22	Learn how to use these Apple apps to maximise use of your iPad or iPhone
F4D401MA	Introduction to Computers - Over 65s	Rivers Centre	15/01/2015	Th	13:00	15:00	5 wks	£0	£0	Simple, easy and at your own pace
F4C409XQ	ITQ - Level 1 Certificate	Rivers Centre	25/02/2015	We	09:30	12:45	19 wks	£350	£0	Gain a useful qualification for work - word processing, internet and e-mail
Cookery										
G4F407XA	Cake Decorating - Cup Cakes	Rivers Centre	28/02/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£46	£38	Impress with your hand decorated cupcakes; fee includes icing and decorations
G4A203CA	Cake Decorating - Sugar Paste	Stantonbury Campus	12/01/2015	Mo	19:00	21:00	10 wks	£110	£88	For learners moving on from Royal Icing
G4F405XA	Cake Decorating - Sugar Flowers	Rivers Centre	07/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Roses and carnations to embellish your special occasion cakes
G4F406XA	Cookery - Chocolate Easter Gifts	Rivers Centre	21/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£46	£38	Make an attractive Easter gift; fee includes basic materials
G4C401CA	Cookery - Global Vegetarian	Stantonbury Campus	25/02/2015	We	19:00	21:00	5 wks	£55	£44	Enjoy cooking vegetarian dishes from around the world
G4A405CA	Cookery - Beyond the Basics	Stantonbury Campus	23/02/2015	Mo	19:00	21:00	5 wks	£55	£44	From light lunches to delicious dinners, food to enjoy with friends and family
G4C402CA	Cookery - Indian Advanced	Stantonbury Campus	14/01/2015	We	19:00	21:00	5 wks	£55	£44	Develop your understanding of subtle flavours and prepare a range of wonderful, fresh and nourishing dishes
G4F402XA	Food Safety - Level 2 - CIEH	Rivers Centre	07/02/2015	Sat	09:30	17:00	1 day	£64	£54	Standard for anyone handling higher risk foodstuffs on stalls, or in cafés

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Why is Happy Bear feeling so grumpy?

SEE **PAGE 16**

Why is little Holly looking so happy?

SEE **PAGE 11**

Thanks for recycling all you can in our weekly scheme

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Farmhouse fire death

THE woman who was tragically killed in a house fire at the weekend has been named locally as Kate Morgan.

The 65-year-old's body was found by firefighters following the blaze at Rectory Farmhouse in School Lane, Loughton.

She had been a friend and carer for owner of the house Rita Price-Jones, known to neighbours and friends as PJ, who died in October last year just two days before her 99th birthday.

A total of 30 firefighters and three officers were called to the three-storey detached house at 7.37am on Saturday.

An investigation into the cause of the fire is still being carried out.

Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service has reported that 20 per cent of the ground floor of the house was affected by the blaze and most of the property was damaged by smoke.

Steve Wells, the service's group commander, said: "As you would appreciate, there is a sense of shock among neighbouring residents.

"Crews have been offering safety messages and advice where considered appropriate."

For more on this story turn to page 7

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Jaltek commented on September's MK Job Show: "We were the zone sponsors in January and September 2014 and we are sponsoring the Engineering & IT Zone again in January 2015. We've had a fantastic response and taken on loads of talented people including hard to find engineers. Well worth the investment and really worthwhile - I recommend you book a stand for the January show."

Other exhibitor feedback:

"Having an event like this in a shopping centre is a great idea as it attracts thousands of interested people - great location!" Selex.

"Visitors have arrived really prepared and have done their research in advance." Travis Perkins.

"Really good calibre of people interested in what we have to offer - great success." BP.

"Surprisingly a lot of really good technical people from auditing, IT and consulting backgrounds - people we were surprised to meet, a great mix and a real success." Deloitte.

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No go: Teresa Evans by the bollard, which restricts access to Wolverton cemetery

Cemetery bollard anger

A CAMPAIGNER is urging Milton Keynes Council to remove a bollard at the entry to a graveyard, as she believes it is stopping elderly people from visiting their loved ones.

Teresa Evans, 57, from Bletchley, wants to see the bollard removed altogether at the cemetery in Woburn Avenue, Wolverton.

Her 20-year-old son Boyd Evans, who was tragically killed in a car accident in 2006, is buried there.

She believes that elderly people are struggling to move the heavy bollard, for which a select number of people have a key to bring it down.

But she also fears that many people who don't have access to a key are finding it difficult to walk some of the considerable distances from the small car park which is located outside the cemetery.

Teresa claims that she was told by MK Council that the bollard was introduced to prevent damage to headstones from cars driving down the track.

She said: "It began some considerable time ago and I have been waiting for the council to at least install a different kind of bollard so it isn't so heavy to pick up.

"I originally chose this graveyard because I have problems with my spine that make it difficult to walk long distances."

'Don't isolate us' plea from elderly

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news. co. uk

COUNCIL cuts could cause further anguish to yet another city charity – after Age UK Milton Keynes revealed it faces losing £335,000 in funding.

The 2015/16 budget, which is currently being drafted by the leading Labour party at Milton Keynes Council, is proposing that funding for all non-statutory services in the voluntary and community sector is cut.

For Age UK Milton Keynes, this could mean an end to the popular lunch clubs and community home visiting service that helps hundreds of lonely elderly people every week.

The charity runs 20 lunch clubs across the city – the majority in sheltered housing – and charges clients £5.50 for a meal, but also provides bingo, entertainment and, crucially, company for elderly people. It charges an extra £3 to transport clients to the base if they find it difficult to get there independently.

Age UK Milton Keynes faces losing £93,310 for the lunch clubs, £127,490 for the home visiting service, £94,097 for transport and £20,129 for care contribution.

But the cuts – which would come into force in 12 weeks time – would make both services unsustainable as they currently are.

Beryl Moulden, 82, said: "I attend at Peartree Bridge, get collected once a week and that is my four hours break. It is upsetting, we'll be absolutely isolated without it."

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Taxi row review kept confidential

AN INTERNAL review by the Liberal Democrat party into how two of its councillors were embroiled in the taxi licencing row will remain 'confidential'.

Rapist Nadeem Ahmed Kiani was handed two licences for a hackney carriage and private hire vehicles, despite his convictions. The discovery led to the resignation of Lib Dem mayor Subhan Shafiq in August - who had personally vouched for Kiani.

Lib Dem councillor Stuart Burke was head of the licensing sub-committee that renewed his licence.

An internal audit review has been launched by Milton Keynes Council, and the Lib Dems have followed suit by holding an internal review.

But the contents of it will remain confidential away from the eyes of the public, confirmed the party's parliamentary candidate Jane Carr.

She said: "This is because it is about individual people."

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Hospital's figures critical

WAITING times in accident and emergency departments in England are at their worst levels in more than a decade, with just 92.6 per cent of patients being seen within four hours.

NHS England released records showing it has failed to meet the target of seeing 95 per cent of patients within the time limit.

At Milton Keynes Hospital, out of 33,580 people attending, 90.7 per cent were seen within four hours.

Andrew Pakes, Labour's parliamentary candidate for Milton Keynes South, said about the latest A&E figures:

"These latest figures are extremely serious.

"Milton Keynes Hospital, like elsewhere in the country, is clearly under huge pressure to deal with increasing demand.

"We have an amazing NHS team in Milton Keynes and we should all pay tribute to the incredible work they are doing.

"But put simply, they don't have the support and resources for a new city of our size."

Bushy beard is given the boot

BY MAY BULMAN
editor@mk-news.co.uk

A STUDENT says he was ordered to trim his beard by employers because they considered his unshaven face unsuitable for a shoe shop.

Hirsute Joe Bulman, 19, claims he was given 24 hours to get groomed or his employers would trim it for him.

Joe returned from university during the Christmas holidays and went back to his old employers for some cover work on Boxing Day.

But he claims managers at the Milton Keynes store were less than impressed with his facial fuzz.

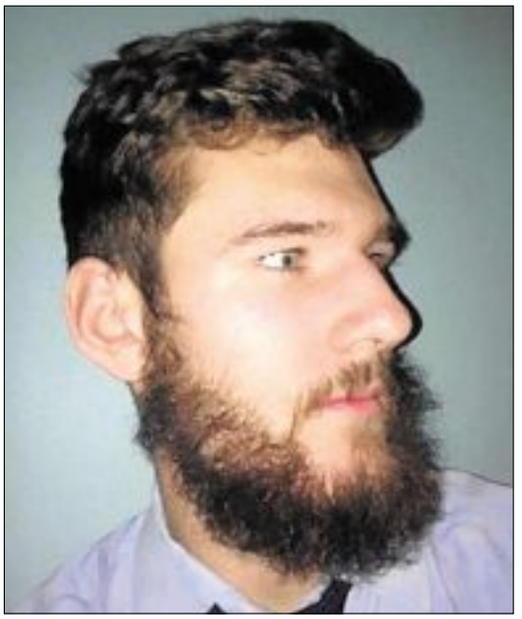
Joe, a first year student at Bournemouth University, said: "The festive cheer was slashed from me on Boxing Day when my managers ordered me to snip my beloved beard.

"The bosses gave the order at the end of a gruelling shift. They gave me less than 24 hours to do it, claiming that if I failed to they would do it themselves with a pair of scissors.

"Being told I must get rid of my pride and joy by my part-time employer was a big blow."

Speaking to student newspaper The Tab, the firm's HR manager admitted that Joe's beard needed trimming to keep up appearances.

She said: "We pride ourselves on presentation. An untrimmed beard is like a girl wearing laddered tights. We must ensure that all of our staff look presentable while working."



Face off: Joe Bulman was ordered to lose his beard by shoe shop

Joe couldn't understand what the fuss was about and vowed to return to work with his facial hair intact.

He said: "I simply don't see what the harm is. Beard or no beard, I work to a high standard.

"It doesn't affect my performance. In fact, my facial forest has only ever received praise from customers.

"I am not going to comply with their unreasonable order. I will get my facial hair trimmed in my own time, but I won't be forced to meet a deadline."

Joe eventually returned to work with the beard trimmed, and has since amicably settled the matter with his employers.

PM names Jill a Point of Light

A RETIRED teacher from Milton Keynes, who set up the UK's largest charity for children and young people with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, has today been named a Point of Light by Prime Minister David Cameron.

Dr Jill Moss, aged 72, set up the Association of Young People with ME (AYME), in 1996, having suffered with the disease herself for four years. The charity has since helped over 9,000 young people living with the condition. She is the latest recipient of a Point of Light award, which recognises outstanding individual volunteers; people who are making a change in their community and inspiring others.

Each day, someone somewhere in the country is selected to receive the award to mark their great achievements.

Dr Moss said: "This is a real honour. It's not easy to get the time to step back and take a look at what has been achieved when there is still so much to do."

Award winner: Dr Jill Moss

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Multi-storey madness

JUST before Christmas I was astonished to learn that the planning application for the multi -storey car park beside John Lewis had been recommended for approval by planning officers. It ruined my holiday!

First, let's be clear; nobody, I think, is against some multi storey parking in this location. It is the lack of ambition, moribund nature and the gross scale of the proposal that are all wrong for Milton Keynes.

This car park will actually damage CMK through massive traffic congestion, impact on buses/pedestrians, development blight, overwhelming of the listed Grade ll building, incompatible design –the list goes on.

But most of all, this lifeless use of a critical site is contrary to civic aspirations and all the planning strategies laboriously consulted upon and put in place by the Council.

Many man-years at great public expense have gone into producing the MK Local Plan, The MK Core Strategy, the CMK Framework Plan, the CMK Business Neighbourhood Plan, plus the National Planning Framework.

All these painstakingly produced policies aim to make this end of CMK an active, vibrant and cultural part of the city centre, and for an exciting new development next to John Lewis to relate to the theatre/gallery opposite as well as to the shops.

But the dead lump of car storage now proposed is the total opposite. If the Development Control Committee approves this application, then every policy and strategy prepared by the Council is totally worthless and might as well be shredded, along with the Council's credibility.

Jon Muncaster RIBA
Sent via email

Sunrise on a frosty morning: Richard Watt took this photo on the last day of 2014 of the picturesque 14th century church St Peter and St Paul, in Olney

Look at hidden costs

OBJECTORS to the vast new multi-storey car park the centre:mk wants to build next to John Lewis warn of serious disruptions to bus journeys, urban blight and the lost opportunity to build a landmark development that would bring hundreds of new jobs instead of a lifeless car park.

But what of more hidden costs? It could cost the cash-strapped Council £1.5million a year in lost revenue from public parking – revenue we rely on for highways and public transport services. Why? Because of itself this multi-storey won't bring any new visitors to CMK.

The centre:mk will have to draw existing visitors away from existing parking, and undercutting thousands of council-run spaces around the shopping centre is the obvious tactic.

Every visitor who makes the switch represents lost income for local services.

If just 750 out of the 1416 spaces in the new multi-storey are occupied for just four hours a day at the expense of premium public parking the Council would lose £29,400 a week or £1.53m a year. And that's on current charges of £1.40 an hour.

If the Council charges go up to £2.00 an hour the loss will be even greater. In itself, this is not a reason to refuse permission but on pure planning grounds there is a strong case to turn it down.

Let's hope MK Councillors have the skill and the will to use it on Thursday night, otherwise the costs to the people and economy of MK will be lasting and real.

Linda Inoki
Chairman of Xplain

Spaces badly needed

I NOTE with interest your recent articles about parking in Milton Keynes.

Our current proposals for a new multi-storey car park next to John Lewis are based on a clear requirement for more car parking spaces with pay on departure facilities. Its purpose is simple: attract more visitors to Milton Keynes City Centre and ensure they can stay longer.

We have received significant support for the application, but recognise this can be overshadowed by a highly vocal few.

Our message is simple and clear. If approved, this investment unlocks further significant development for Milton Keynes City Centre, which in turn will help drive employment and growth for the city as a whole.

James Waugh
Director, the centre:mk

Mark's Monthly Focus

MP highlights why YMCA should be saved

Budget lets down society's most vulnerable

THE Council has difficult decisions to make, but the more I look at the budget the less I can see any genuine strategy behind it.

Take for example the YMCA Emergency Hostel, which as a result of the Council's budget is now under the threat of closure. Spare a thought for the many rough sleepers in Milton Keynes who have no immediate family at hand and a warm place to sleep.

I have spent the night sleeping rough in Milton Keynes and experienced just how depressing and miserable it can be. These people deserve and need our support.

Thanks to the work of many charities and churches across MK limited support has indeed been at hand. One such place is the YMCA emergency shelter which I have visited many times in recent years.

As Ian Revell, the Chief Executive of the MK YMCA says in his emotional letter to our Labour-run Council to change its mind, the closure of the emergency hostel will mean: "Initially 20 more people per night will be sleeping on our streets.

"These are often vulnerable individuals who will have no choice but to bed down in shop doorways and bin stores (to the detriment of local business), in underpasses (to the dismay and concern of pedestrians and as a detraction from the night time economy) and around Christ the Cornerstone Church which already has an existing "outdoor congregation" of rough sleepers. Particularly in cold weather these people are likely to be driven to drink too much with all the obvious consequences for already overstretched A&E services and the police."

The YMCA has been consistent in its delivery. Despite difficult economic circumstances our Council can still find thousands of pounds for 'motivational speakers' and flashy PR videos. Therefore, it is inconceivable and unacceptable that it should be letting down the YMCA and the most vulnerable in our society.

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Tributes paid to avid dog lover

Fire scene: Police officers and firefighters were called to the farmhouse in Loughton

For more on this story and to see our picture galleries visit www.mkweb.co.uk

BY SARAH LEE
editor@mk-news.co.uk

FOLLOWING the tragic death of Kate Morgan, friends and neighbours of the dog lover have revealed her unique life story.

Close friend Carla White discovered the fire at Rectory Farmhouse in Loughton.

She said: "I saw fire coming from the house at 7am on Saturday morning. I rang 999 at once and tried to get Kate's attention – who was in the house. Unfortunately, when the firefighters turned up, she was found dead.

"Her death has been really upsetting for the village and she will be missed."

Ms Morgan, aged 65 and originally from Wales, was a friend and carer for the owner of the house Rita Price-Jones – known to neighbours and friends as PJ – who died in October last year aged 98.

Mrs Price-Jones had lived in the property since 1966 and Kate moved in a year later in 1967.

Ms White, a careworker at Becket House in Loughton, said: "Kate looked after PJ's French poodles for many years when Rita's health declined.

"Kate started working with Rita – who was a breeder of poodles and a judge of many dog shows – in 1967.

"She was a dedicated and good worker and was so loyal to Mrs Price-Jones.

"I was friends with Kate for 30 years. She was an animal lover – but she particularly loved cats and dogs – and of course, Mrs Price-Jones' poodles."

According to Ms White, Ms Morgan did not have a husband or any children. Her only known family was her brother, who lives in Wales.

Beth Dowle, 72, from Northamptonshire, was friends with Kate for 40 years.

She said: "I met Kate's companion Rita when I had my first set of poodles in 1975.

"Rita was famous in the poodle world – she judged all over the world.

She had an international fixation for champion poodles and Kate was always by her side.

"Rita moved into Rectory Farmhouse on Christmas Eve in 1966 and Kate moved in a year later as Rita's employee and companion.

"Kate was employed by Rita as a kennel maid, where she tended to nearly 100 poodles that were kept on the farmhouse grounds.

"When Rita's health declined, Kate took over the house to care for her.

"Rita was bed-ridden for almost nine years and Kate would only have Tuesday and Saturday afternoons off to do some shopping.

"During the last few years of her life, Rita was unable to communicate – but Kate could understand her needs by her demeanour.

"After Rita died, Kate lived in the house alone, waiting for the estate to be sorted.

"She felt it was her duty to take care of the farmhouse for Rita."

Recalling life in grand house

THE nephew of Rita Price-Jones, Giles Waddington, has recalled his visits to the farmhouse and his memories of Kate Morgan.

"Kate was a slim and elegant woman, quite quiet and reserved, but she was extremely robust and hard working.

"My aunt's house was like a time warp. It was like something out of Downtown Abbey – a grand front door, a large living room, chandeliers and solid silver candle holders on a large dining table.

"I would visit my aunt every half-term or summer holiday, and all I can remember is the grandeur of the place.

"The house had five large bedrooms, a grand front door, a tennis court and a summer house. But Kate lived in the attic for most of her time there.

"At times Kate was treated like a servant, which made me feel uncomfortable. Over time she became part of the family, being more of a daughter to Rita then being her full-time carer when she became bed-bound.

"When I visited the house as a child, I was allowed to help Kate feed the poodles that were kept in the kennels out the back. With this, Kate became like a sister to me and I had maintained contact with her ever since.

"The house was originally occupied by Rita, Hugh [Rita's husband], Rita's mother and Kate. When Hugh and Rita's mother died, her sister Kathleen moved to Rectory Farmhouse to be with Rita. So that made two widows and a spinster – the spinster being Kate. I have never known Kate to have any partners or boyfriends.

"After dedicating her life to my aunt, Kate was left in limbo when she died. The house wasn't lawfully left to her and there was uncertainty of where she would be living. She spent her last three months in the house alone, waiting for something to happen."

Best in show: Rita Price-Jones with a prize poodle

The owner of the house is currently unknown and according to Mr Waddington its fate is in the hands of the housing executor.

He added: "The loss of Kate, the property and also Rita's ashes that were left at the house is extremely upsetting."

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Silencer is put on club's raves

Raves off: Business partners Richard Baggs and Simon O'Brien at MK11, which is being relaunched

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

THE owners of MK11 at Kiln Farm Club have said they will be putting an end to late night raves at the venue – but will concentrate on live music and showing sports instead.

Having launched as a live music venue and staging late night raves from March 2013, the owners soon ran into trouble after receiving a noise abatement order from Milton Keynes Council.

The notice forced the owners to re-evaluate how the club was operating.

The Kiln Farm Club, originally a sports and social club for the friends and family of MK Development Corporation employees, has been leased by Marc and Simon O'Brien and Richard Baggs. It is run as a live music venue, sports bar and restaurant.

"Milton Keynes is crying out for a place to enjoy live music, sports and good food all under one roof," said Simon, one of the managing directors of MK11.

"We've listened to the council carefully and concede that late night raves are not in the spirit with the original purpose of the venue, so it's a no brainer to revisit the original model that worked so well for so many years."

The owners have abandoned raves in order to focus on supporting more live bands. They say this will ensure more support for local artists and acts.

They have also vowed to check the sound levels to avoid further complaints.

The club will be relaunching on January 31.

Call to fix estate's pavements

RESIDENTS of an estate in Bletchley will hand in a petition demanding action over the poor quality of its pavements.

People living in the Saints Estate area of Bletchley are so fed up with the cracks in the pavements that more than 100 have signed a petition calling on Milton Keynes Council not to forget the area when it comes to improvement works.

The petition will be handed in during a meeting of the council's cabinet on January 12 at the Civic Offices.

The members item will be presented by Bletchley ward councillor Martin Gowans.

He said: "The estate was built in the 1960s and many of the footpaths are showing their age and it isn't great around there.

"Independent local councillor Sally Crockett began knocking on residents' doors off her own back and now she has more than 100 signatures.

"It's been requested that a borough councillor takes it to the cabinet, which is where I come in.

"In my opinion it is one of the worst areas in my ward with this problem.

"Really we just want to ensure that no area gets left behind and I have spoken with the cabinet member Mick Legg about this a number of times.

"In the past few years Bletchley has been left behind, so we want to make sure that it is spread fairly across the city."

Job losses loom for three crisis companies

JOBS could be cut in the city as three companies face troubled times.

A report due to be released tomorrow by Tesco follows the supermarket chain overstating its half-year profits by £250million, which could lead to job losses. A Tesco spokesman was unable to comment on whether staff will lose their jobs in Milton Keynes.

More than 1,500 jobs are at risk nationally after Bank Fashion, which has a store at intu Milton Keynes, called in administrators Deloitte.

Johnson Service Group has also revealed it is to close more than 100 dry cleaning branches over the next six months as it seeks to 'rationalise' its estate.

There are five branches in the area, but it's unclear whether they will shut.

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Hope for Hollie charity of year

Hope: Hollie Carter with her mum and dad Helen and Pete

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

AFTER a grand total of 3,584 votes readers have chosen who they would like to be selected as MKWeb and MK NEWS' charity of the year 2015 – the Hope for Hollie Foundation.

The charity supports families affected by the rare and fatal condition Niemann Pick Type C (NPC), known as childhood Alzheimer's.

The disease, which causes progressive neurological decline and childhood dementia, affects just 100 children in the UK and 1,000 worldwide, but three of those children live in Milton Keynes and another nearby in Leighton Buzzard.

The charity was launched by parents Helen and Pete Carter, whose nine-year-old daughter Hollie has the disease.

The Shenley Brook End family, who have held fundraising balls and events since Hollie's diagnosis in 2008, are becoming well-known in the community.

Hollie's mum Helen said: "Thank you, this is just amazing and I really look forward to working with the MKWeb and MK NEWS team.

"Thank you so much to everyone who voted for the Hope for Hollie Foundation. This is a huge achievement for the foundation and will really help us give those fighting the rare and fatal NPC a voice."

Our charity of the year in 2014 was Leo's Appeal, which is raising money for Milton Keynes Hospital's children's ward.

TOP FIVE CHARITIES

- Hope for Hollie Foundation
- Team George
- The Henry Allen Trust
- Harry's Rainbow
- Jessica Sherman Foundation

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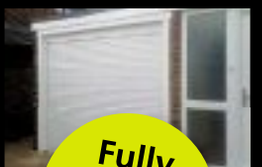

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Boy's petition to make city safer

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

A 12-YEAR-OLD boy who lost his primary school friend in a road traffic accident last month has set up a petition to try and make Milton Keynes safer.

The funeral of Neesha-Leigh Dundon, who tragically lost her life on December 17, was held on Monday.

As previously reported by MK NEWS, the 12-year-old, who was a Year Eight student at Stantonbury Campus, was attempting to cross the V8 Marlborough Street in Netherfield when she was hit by a black VW Golf.

Luke Scott, from Conniburrow, has set up the petition, which has so far been signed by 97 people.

The Stantonbury Campus student said: "The petition is to make the underpasses in the city lit so people don't want to walk over the roads. Fix lighting on the redways and make the roads better lit."

Luke set up the petition instead of attending Neesha-Leigh's funeral as he was too upset to go. "I just don't want it to happen to any other families," he added.

Tribute: Flowers left at the scene where Neesha-Leigh died

His 19-year-old sister April May contacted MK NEWS to help spread the word.

She said: "Luke was quite upset by the whole accident and believed Neesha may not have used the underpass because there was no lighting.

"After seeing the article in MK NEWS about the other people who had died on roads, Luke wanted to do something. Luke and Neesha were friends since primary school and we are family friends, so he was quite upset."

Milton Keynes Council is carrying out a road safety review in a bid to prevent further fatalities after seven people died on roads in the last 18 months.

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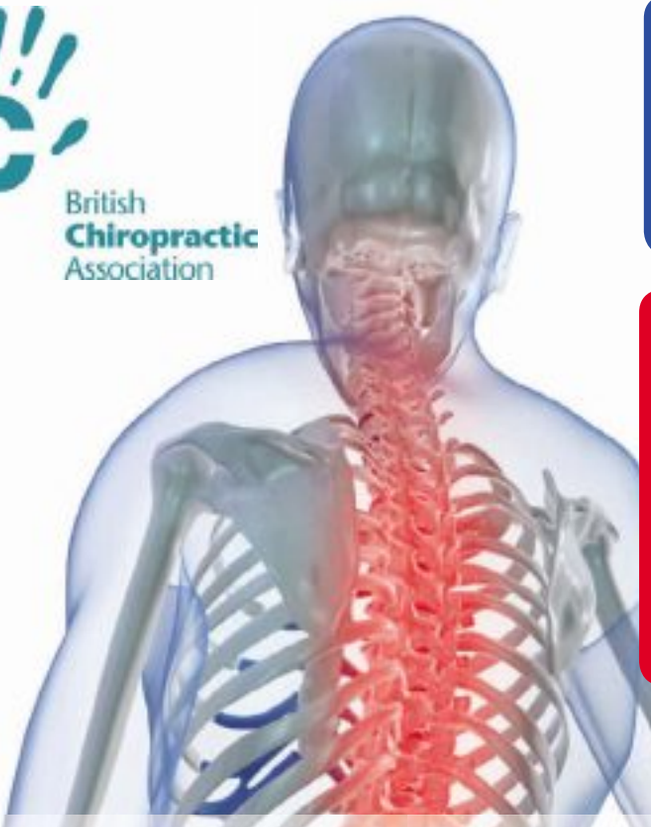

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Striking t-shirt praises player

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

A T-SHIRT praising the goal-scoring exploits of one the Dons' key players is being sold on an online auction site.

Benik Afobe's impressive goal tally is highlighted in a graph on the front of the t-shirt, which features boxes saying 'kick-off', 'pass to Afobe' and 'did he score?'.

If the answer to did he score? is yes, an arrow leads back to the kick-off box, but if the answer is no, it goes back to Pass to Afobe.

Fans of the Arsenal loanee can but the t-shirt in a range of sizes for £10 on eBay.

Afobe has scored an impressive 18 goals for Dons so far this season – including a brace against Manchester United and a hat-trick against Colchester United.

Other quirky items on sale in Milton Keynes on ebay, which allows people to buy and and sell goods, include vintage postcards of the area, with some dating back as far as the 1920s.

More than 65 postcards are being sold, some for as much as £16, and include pictures of the lake and church at Willen, scenes of Stony Stratford, Bletchley and Bow Brickhill and well-known city centre landmarks such as the Peace Pagoda and Church of Christ the Cornerstone. Some of then have been written on, while others have been left blank.

Out-of-date bus timetables and a book of Milton Keynes street names are among the other items for sale.

Striking a sale: T-shirt praising Benik Afobe's goal-scoring record

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Miserable thieves steal Happy bear

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

POLICE are investigating the theft of Happy Bear – the much-loved giant cuddly mascot who sat outside a town toy shop.

A thief was spotted lifting up the stuffed animal by his ear outside Happy Days Toys in High Street, before heading off in the direction of St Peter's and Paul's Church.

According to a staff member at the neighbouring Modern Man Hairdressers, the bear – said to be worth £400 – was stolen by a man who looked between 18 and 25 years of age.

Happy Bear has been a common sight outside the shop since it opened eight years ago.

Owner Suzanne Cole told MK NEWS he was stolen between 11am and 1pm on December 29.

After an appeal to find him on Facebook, the 39-year-old has put a smaller bear in his place and plans to put a sign on it saying 'help find my friend'.

Mrs Cole said: "People have been leaving funny comments on Facebook with one person saying 'this is not just a matter for the police but for the RSPCA too.

"When I spoke to the police on 101 the officer did snigger a bit but admitted it is still a crime and they will investigate. Somebody driving past must have seen him!

"Hopefully when the owner of the barbers is back, police can check their CCTV."

Happy Bear's favourite spot was sitting next to a lamppost outside the shop, which he was chained to for security. He was used instead of an A-board to promote the shop, which is down an alley way.

Mrs Cole added: "We had lost one of the locks on the chain but I thought who is going to take him?

"He is worth £400 but is a bit weathered from his time spent outside.

"Three years ago someone ordered one just like him and when he picked it up and went walking back to his car we had so many phone calls that our bear had been stolen, so it it's upsetting that no-one has seen the real Happy Bear this time.

"It is a bit funny as he is old and tatty but it is still theft and we would love to have him back.

"We have got another one his size which we bought a long while ago as the toy has now been discontinued, but we don't want to put it out yet. If you saw anything please call the shop or police."

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Who's got Happy? An appeal has been made for his return

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MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

IVF: Katie Marks has lost eight stone through Slimming World in the hope she can receive IVF treatment. She and husband Roy have been trying for a baby since 2007

Slimmer's baby wish

BY NISHA MAL
editor@mk-news.co.uk

A NANNY who has waited eight years and lost eight stone in a bid to have a baby may soon be able to have fertility treatment.

Katie Marks and her husband Roy have been trying for a baby since 2007 and during that time she has suffered miscarriages and an ectopic pregnancy (when a fertilised egg implants itself outside of the womb).

Katie and Roy have been having consultations at Milton Keynes Hospital and will find out if they are eligible for funding for IVF at the end of January.

The 30-year-old from Old Stratford said: "It is my dream to become a mother.

"Being a nanny means I am always around children and I can't remember a time when I haven't wanted to have a baby of my own.

"My doctor told me losing weight would increase my chances of being able to conceive naturally.

"It took me two years to lose it and when I fell pregnant I thought this was finally my chance. I felt like all my hard work of losing weight was going to pay off and I would be blessed with a baby."

Katie lost weight through Slimming World and started her own group in Old Stratford in September, which has around 100 members.

According to NHS Milton Keynes Clinical Commissioning Group a couple must try for a baby for at least a year before being eligible for IVF.

Nationally, 84 per cent of couples will fall pregnant within 12 months and about half of those who don't will conceive in the second year.

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BEDFORD COLLEGE

Tiffany diamond ring left at hotel

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

WHERE would you find a Tiffany diamond engagement ring, Swarovski animal ornaments, three cases of Moet Champagne and a Steiff teddy bear?

The answer is the lost and found office of the Travelodge hotels in Grafton Gate Shenley Church End and Old Stratford in Milton Keynes.

On Monday the hotel chain revealed some of the interesting items left behind in its 500 hotels across the country in the last 12 months.

Spokesman Shakila Ahmed said: "This year's lost and found inventory list has revealed some new unique items being left behind such as a Coutts cheque book, a business contract for an online company, an antique dolls house, a child's Porsche car, a Star Wars Storm Trooper outfit and a feng shui aquarium.

"Our 2014 left behind register also revealed how much smart technology has become a part of our everyday lives, as we have had 12,000 tablets and smartphones left behind in our hotels in the last 12 months. This is a significant increase from previous years.

"What is becoming evident after speaking to our customers is that the pace of life has become so fast and we are so eager to get from A to B that valuable possessions are easily being forgotten."

All items left behind in Travelodge hotels that are not claimed within three months are donated to a local charity.

Treasure trove: The Travelodge in Grafton Gate in Central MK

ITEMS LEFT BEHIND

- More than £300 worth of money saving coupons
- A large collections of Swarovski animal ornaments
- Three cases of Moet Champagne
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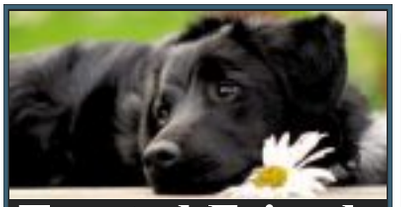

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Change of Name

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Jignesh Vallabhbhai Davda

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Club is raided by Wealdstone fans

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

INTERNET sensation The Wealdstone Raider, also known as Gordon Hill, met many of his fans at WonderWorld in Milton Keynes on New Year's Eve.

He found online fame after asking a football fan 'You want some?' during a football match – and he even brought out a song which fought for the Christmas Number one slot.

He treated partygoers to a rendition of his song after the midnight countdown and signed autographs and chatted with fans throughout the night.

Fan-tastic: The Wealdstone Raider makes the most of his guest appearance at WonderWorld in Milton Keynes last Wednesday

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Shops enjoyed a great December

BY NISHA MAL
editor@mk-news.co.uk

AS THE festive frenzy dies down, shopping centres in Milton Keynes are reporting good sales figures for December.

The number of people entering shops at intu Milton Keynes was significantly up in 2014 and Black Friday saw crowds of people checking out discounts throughout the day and much of the weekend.

General manager Martin Hindson said: "The Black Friday weekend was a great success for us – footfall was significantly up and our Black Friday offer wall saw a huddle of people constantly checking discounts.

"There were amazing deals on all sorts of things, from highly desirable tech products to fashion must-haves, which saw a frenzy of Christmas shoppers get ahead on their Christmas shopping."

Going down: Price slashes for Black Friday led to a rise in sales

The centre's Lego store revealed the most popular toys for Christmas were VW Campervan and Mini Cooper sets, the Batmobile from The Dark Knight and Minecraft.

The centre:mk also saw a rise in sales with jewellery, beauty, technology, fashion, health, toys and gifts performing well.

Centre director James Waugh said: "Many of our stores are reporting record-breaking sales performance with double digit growth at key trading periods."

John Lewis in the centre:mk saw an increase in sales of women's items with a 25 per cent increase on shoes, 10 per cent on handbags, 12 per cent on premium fragrance and a surge in watches, jewellery and nightwear too.

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State-of-the-art: The new library in Kingston will boast a host of extra features with books set out in a retail style presentation

Library's novel move

BY SARAH LEE
editor@mk-news.co.uk

A NEW library will open its doors to the public later this month.

Based at the Kingston Centre, it will boast modern features you would not expect to find at a traditional library.

It is hoped a retail style presentation of books will pull customers in, with the library aiming to look as good as the stores in Milton Keynes.

There also promises to be an 'upbeat buzzy atmosphere' with contemporary colours and furniture, but also pockets of comfy seating for families.

Space will be dedicated to activities for children aged nine years old and over to enable them to stay in the library while their parents and toddlers go round the nearby Tesco supermarket and other stores.

The possibility of a personal shopper service will also be on offer that will enable visitors to list the ages and interests of their family and collect suggested titles on their way home.

This will also be extended to a read and feed offer where people can pick up books and films while waiting for their Domino's pizza.

Councillor Liz Gifford, cabinet member for community services, said: "I'm really pleased Milton Keynes Council has been able to invest in building this community facility. With the current difficult budget we want to change the way libraries operate and having a great modern facility like this will help that process and help continue a great library service across MK."

Volunteers are needed to help at the library, which will open on Tuesday, January 27.

Find out how to volunteer at **www.mkweb.co.uk**.

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Jordan has key role in TV drama

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

A SCHOOLBOY from Milton Keynes has landed a role in a new drama series that is due to be screened on Channel 4 this month.

Jordan Adene, 13, who attends the Royal Latin School in Buckingham, will be appearing in Cucumber – an eight-episode drama by Russell T Davies, the multi-award winning screenwriter, who was responsible for the 2005 revival of the much-loved BBC series Doctor Who.

Described as a 'channel-defining series' by Channel 4's chief creative officer Jay Hunt in a recent interview in The Independent, Cucumber will explore the passions and pitfalls of 21st-century gay life.

Jordan plays the role of a young boy who is exploring his curiosity about the 'birds and the bees'.

Talking about his role in the series, Jordan said: "Cucumber is my first TV role. I was excited when I heard the script was written by Russell T Davies. I am a fan of his work. I had an amazing time on set and totally enjoyed the experience, in particular working with experienced actors such as Vincent Franklin and Cyril Nri."

TV star: Jordan Adene has landed a role in the much-anticipated Russell T Davies drama, Cucumber

Jordan has also recently filmed a commercial for Transport for London and played Jerome in Rodgers and Hammerstein's South Pacific alongside Samantha Womack from EastEnders.

Jordan is on the books of leading children's talent agency, Top Talent.

Director Warren Bacci said: "Jordan is a very talented young actor and really impressed the casting directors for Cucumber.

"I believe this role is only the beginning for Jordan and could open many doors for him."

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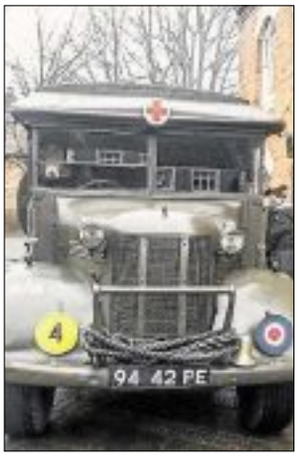

Transport history: Stony Stratford was treated to a vintage collection

Vintage display: Motors were on show in all their finery at the event

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a trip back in history

Spick and span: Howard Wilcox, with his wife and son Zac, picked up the best vintage car award

CAR lovers came out in force on New Year's Day for the annual Vintage Stony event.

Proud owners from across the country visited the Market Square in Stony Stratford to show off their cars, meet other enthusiasts and enjoy the revved up atmosphere.

Many of the cars, vans and motorcycles were from the 1920s – it was the first year motorcycles had been allowed to enter the event.

Awards such as best vintage car, oldest car and most coveted motorcycle were up for grabs and as well as winning a fancy red and blue badge the lucky owners got a bottle of scotch.

Winner of the best vintage car award, Howard Wilcox from Eaton Bray in Bedfordshire, said: "I am a collector of cars and bicycles and brought my 1935 Brough Superior because I was looking for a nice family car."

Winner: John Wallis and his 1924 Brough Superior MR403 motorcycle. It won the most coveted bike award

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What is the 'ugliest' building in the city?

BY JULIA SUTTON
editor@mk-news.co.uk

MILTON Keynes has its fair share of great architecture.

The attractive glass cladding of the shopping centre won acclaim for being attractive when it first opened in the 1980s.

But the city does have a few buildings which aren't exactly easy on the eye, and with the help of readers we've identified some of the 'less attractive' buildings dotted across the city.

Do you agree with the list that we've compiled online?

'Run down': Serpentine Court, *above*, and Mellish Court, *below*

Your comments

Share your views – email letters@mk-news.co.uk

Sam Moyes-Robb: "The Gables in Wolverton (I live at the top)"
Clare Suddery: "Definitely Mellish Court flats and Stephenson House the flats by Bletchley Bus Station are looking run down."
Margaret McCracken Hogg: "CMK...BIG EYESORE."
Nick Saunders: "To be honest all of the estates in MK are an eye sore apart from the new builds."
Shireen Hall: "The Agora in Wolverton."
Sinead Francesca Petworth: "Netherfield, but Serpentine Court is ugly and very run down inside, but won't be knocked down for years yet!"
Tammy Smithy: "I would say Granby Court."
Dan Butcher: "The flats at Melrose."

By Sam Potter

Breakthrough relief for back pain and sciatica

IF YOU suffer from low back pain and sciatica, you are one of over 20 million adults in the UK with this often crippling spinal condition.

Shooting, stabbing and burning pains from the low back, sometimes with additional pain through the buttocks and down the legs are all symptoms of a pinched nerves often called "sciatica".

In severe cases, it can lead to muscle wasting, numbness and constant tingling down to the tip of the toes. Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life.

That is, until now...

Recent advances in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain have led to the development and huge success of Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care.

The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. With success rates as high as 90% some back surgeons recommending their patients try this treatment first before having back surgery.

In Bedfordshire, you can try Non-Surgical Re-constructive Spinal Care at the Atlas Wellness Centre – the office of low back pain and sciatica relief expert Peter Olsson.

Peter and his team of fully trained spinal care specialists have helped over 3,000 patients find relief from their agonising back pain and sciatica.

According to Peter, "We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology, not found elsewhere in Bedfordshire, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your low back pain and sciatica; and a unique programme for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people."

Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, most patients report an almost immediate relief from their pain.

Patient Jeff P. from Cambridge says, "My back pain was unbearable but the worst thing was the searing burning pain I felt in my buttock and leg.

I couldn't work or do anything useful and the drugs my GP prescribed hardly did anything.

My wife insisted I respond to one of these ads, I thought it would be a total waste of time, but I'm so glad she kept on at me.

Thank god I called your number, I'm 95% better in just a couple of weeks."

Your invitation for a comprehensive consultation and examination to pinpoint the cause of your low back pain and sciatica...

The spine therapy specialists at Atlas Wellness Centre, are opening more slots in their already busy schedule to help MK News readers find relief from their persistent back and sciatic pain.

All you have to do to receive a thorough diagnostic examination with the most advanced technology in the world and a comprehensive easy to understand report on your state of health is call 01234 340317.

Mention this article (CODE: MKN37SCID5) and Peter will happily reduce his usual consultation fee of £195 to just £37. But hurry, due to obvious reasons – this is a time limited offer – with only 100 reader consultations available at this exclusively discounted rate.

My advice, don't suffer a moment longer...

Find out if Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care can help you, book a consultation with Peter and his team now by calling 01234 340317, they are waiting to take your call today.

They actually treat the cause of your health problem, not just your symptoms.

That's why hundreds of grateful patients tell them "You gave me back my life!"

Over the years, they've treated thousands of patients with back problems and sciatica. The vast majority of them have enjoyed superior, lasting relief. In fact, many who've suffered and have tried other remedies have told them they gave them back their lives!

Call them now and get a full and thorough examination to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just £37, the normal cost of such an exam is £195 so you will save £158!

Don't suffer from the pain and immobility any longer. Discover the natural treatment that can eliminate the cause of your problem and give you the safe, lasting relief you deserve.

Call them now on 01234 340317 and cut out or tear off this valuable article now and take it to your appointment. You'll be entitled to a comprehensive examination to diagnose the cause of your problem – and you'll be on your way to safe, lasting relief! Don't delay your important diagnosis and treatment another moment!

You can even call on the weekend and leave a message on their answer machine to secure your spot as they promise to return all calls; and during the week they are very busy, so if they don't pick up straight away do leave a message.

For obvious reasons they can't help everyone at this reduced price, so please call soon to secure your special opportunity.

Call 01234 340317 NOW and leave a message if it's the weekend or the line is busy - they promise they will get back to you as soon as they can. So call now on 01234 340317 and quote this special discount code: MKN37SCID5

Sciatica Relief Expert Peter Olsson, says: In 9 years of practice, I've never seen a treatment as effective as Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care for patients with sciatica or lower back pain

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Celebration time: players pile in to mark Darren Potter's goal in the club record 7-0 demolition of Oldham Athletic

Pick your top player

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

IT'S time to vote for your MK Dons player of the month for December.

MK NEWS and MKWeb have joined forces up with the club to give fans the opportunity to choose their best performing player.

To cast your vote, simply select your choice in the online poll. What's more, one fan who votes will be selected at random to win two Club Red tickets for Dons' home game with Barnsley on January 24 – where they will also present the winning player with a bottle of champagne prior to kick-off. Carl Baker was the November player of the month and he was presented with his award ahead of the Walsall match on December 29.

Dons continued their impressive form this season into December, smashing their club record with a 7-0 hammering of Oldham Athletic and, although there were a couple of unfavourable results against them, Dons were able to take points off their promotion rivals. The closing date to cast your vote is January 14 and the games under consideration are:

Tuesday, December 2: Sheffield United 0-1 MK DONS: League One
Saturday, December 6: MK DONS 0-1 Chesterfield: FA Cup
Saturday, December 13: Preston North End 1-1 MK DONS: League One
Saturday, December 20: MK DONS 7-0 Oldham Athletic: League One
Friday, December 26: Notts County 0-1 MK DONS: League One
Sunday, December 28: MK DONS 0-3 Walsall: League One

TO VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE
VISIT OUR WEBSITE - WWW.MKWEB.CO.UK

MKNEWS Coach Holidays

Eden & the Lost Gardens of Heligan

Not-to-be-missed wonders!
Departing May & Jun, Sept 2015
Explore the unique, ever-changing, ever-growing Eden Project, with its iconic 'biomes' housing exotic flora from around the world, marvel at the breathtaking lost acres of Heligan, re-discovered after 70 years of neglect, and stay in beautiful coastal Torbay. This fascinating break is a treat at any time of year!

Our price includes
- Return coach travel
- Three nights' dinner, bed and English breakfast accommodation in a comfortable hotel in Torbay
- Entrance to The Eden Project and the Lost Gardens of Heligan
- Visit to Clark's Shopping Village in Street
- Entertainment on at least one evening
- The services of a tour manager

*Book a selected 2015 coach holiday by 28 Feb 2015. Please quote code CCHSPEC. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Price shown includes saving.

Edinburgh Tattoo, Lochs and Steam

Departing Aug 2015
Enjoy a cruise aboard the historic steamship SS Sir Walter Scott, a journey on the steam-hauled Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway and the magical spectacle of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo on this great value four-day summer break

Our price includes
- Return coach travel from the local area
- Three nights' bed and Scottish breakfast accommodation in the Glasgow/Strathclyde area
- Two three-course evening meals
- A seat for the Edinburgh Tattoo
- An orientation tour of Edinburgh
- Loch Katrine cruise on board SS Sir Walter Scott
- Return journey on the Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway
- Visits to Moffat and Gretna Green
- The services of a tour manager

*Book a selected 2015 coach holiday by 28 Feb 2015. Please quote code CCHSPEC. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Price shown includes saving.

Longleat, Bath and the Cotswolds

Departing 22 May & 18 September 2015
This visit to Longleat combines a tour of one of the country's most beautiful stately homes with a drive through Longleat Safari Park. Also includes a visit to the Georgian city of Bath and a scenic tour of the Cotswolds.

Our price includes
- Return coach travel
- Two nights' dinner, bed and English breakfast in a good quality hotel in the Swindon area
- A scenic coach tour of the Cotswolds
- A visit with entrance to Longleat House (including a 40-minute guided walking tour), Gardens, Safari and Adventure Park
- A visit to Bath
- The services of a tour manager

*Book a selected 2015 coach holiday by 28 Feb 2015. Please quote code CCHSPEC. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Price shown includes saving.

Chester and the Tatton Park Flower Show

Bursting with summer colour!
Departing 25 July 2015
Bursting with summer colour and vibrant displays, the hugely popular Tatton Park Flower Show, set in 24 acres of beautiful parkland, is one of the highlights of the gardening year. See the latest in garden design and equipment, get advice and inspiration and return home full of ideas!

Our price includes
- Return coach travel
- One nights' dinner, bed and English breakfast accommodation in a good hotel in the North West area
- Entrance to the Tatton Park Flower Show
- A visit to Chester
- The services of a tour manager

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3. Monkston Park store
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Mon-Sat 7am-10pm, Sun 8am-10pm

4. Highgrove Hill store
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Mon-Sun 7am-9pm

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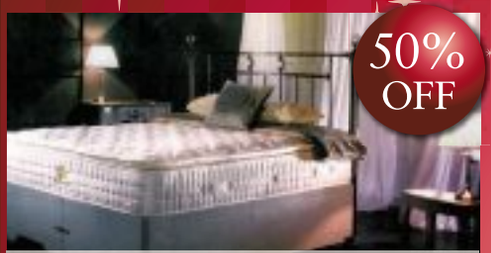

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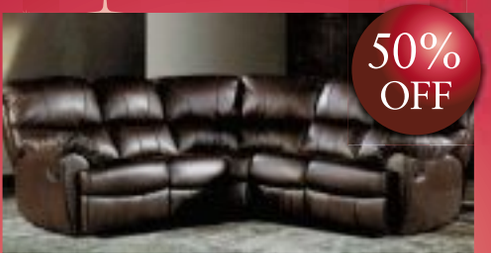

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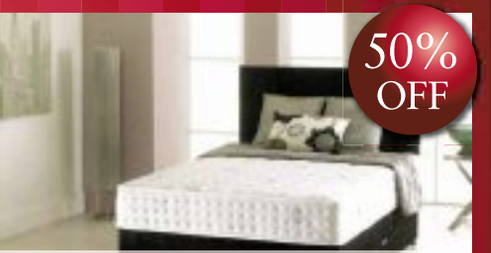

4'6" Silk 1000 Pocket Dual Season Drawer Divan Set

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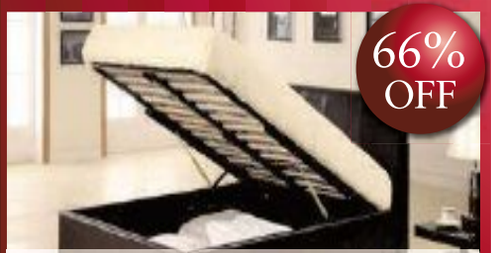

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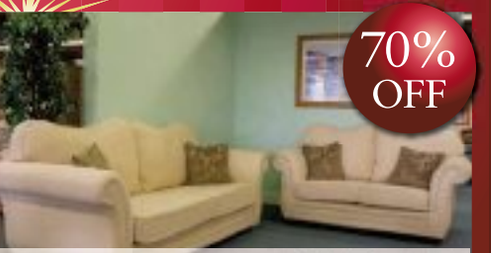

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For more information on either course please call 01908 622897 or email karl.white@mkdonsset.com.

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Apply by 15 January 2015

For children born between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011

Maximise your chance of getting a preferred primary school place

Apply on time

- The closing date is **15 January 2015**
- Any applications received after this will be processed after the majority of places have been allocated
- A late application therefore means you are much less likely to get what you want
- Notifications of the places offered will be made on **16 April 2015** (unless your application is late)

Apply online

- You can apply online at **www.milton-keynes.gov.uk /schooladmissions** until **15 January 2015**
- You will be able to view, update and check the status of your application
- Communication with you will be quicker
- You will receive email confirmations and updates (rather than have to wait for the post to arrive)

Use all three preferences

- You could disadvantage yourself if you don't use your opportunity to express a preference for **three** schools
- Each preference is considered in its own right, so give yourself three separate chances
- We only look at your order of preference (1st, 2nd or 3rd) if the system is able to offer you a place at more than one of your preferences
- Don't assume you will be allocated a place at your catchment school if you don't state it as one of your preferences

Choose wisely

- Consider the school's oversubscription criteria
- Improve your understanding of your chance of success by looking at the point when schools turned down applications last year
- Give consideration to your secondary school liaison group – is your preferred school linked to the secondary school within your area?
- Don't assume your child will get priority just because they attend a nursery class attached to your preferred school

Admissions information for all schools is available in our 'Guide for Parents/Carers' at www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schooladmissions

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Or Text..REPLY**17** (leave a space) the six-digit box number (leave a space) and then enter your message & send to 80098 eg: REPLY**17**123456 ***hi get in touch...*** then send to 80098 Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

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REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras.

INTELLIGENT funny guy without a huge ego required for damaged heart. Casey 39, size 10, curves in all the right paces, pretty, kind, loving, genuine, romantic and available. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 415509**

20 year old female, full time worker looking for older man aged 23-30 for long-term relationship. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4574178**

JENNY voluptuous blonde tanned well presented female, enjoys being and giving pampering, cooking, cosy nights, looking for some broadminded excitement. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 415399**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel No: 0905 002 1883 Box No: 413399**

JACKIE very pretty leggy well-mannered/educated 28yr old female, loves nights in/out, sports, WLTM sincere male up to 35yrs for friendship, hopefully ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 415377**

LUCY, 32yrs, blonde lady seeks naughty boys of any age for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0905 002 1887 Box No: 413443**

JOYCE 39, attractive GSOH, loves nights out, honest, loyal, fun to be with, looking for mature male for adult companionship, meals out and hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 415561**

ADVENTUROUS sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. Aca. **Tel No: 0905 002 1937 Box No: 415301**

NICOLETTE 32 petite professional attractive black female looking for similar hardworking white male who like me loves life and is serious about finding a LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 415545**

LUCY, broadminded 18yrs seeks discreet fun with men any age. Aca. **Tel No: 0905 002 1941 Box No: 365051**

PAT blonde blue eyed curvy, cuddly female, attractive, likes swimming, gardening, holidays, my job/home, looking for happiness with quiet content grounded male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 415533**

SEXY brunette, mid 20's busty, adventurous broad minded seeks no strings fun. **Tel No: 0905 002 1949 Box No: 361739**

MANDY 35, petite attractive slim female with very GSOH, likes to keep fit, meals in/out, WLTM genuine child friendly guy/dad for fun times together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 415513**

SALLY, 38yrs large cuddly lady seeks slim men for discreet meetings. **Text Only 4550193**

DONNA 36yrs un-modest but very attractive, nice eyes, good figure, GSOH, OHAC, great job, sick of never meeting Mr Right, looking for someone special. Genuine male please. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 415187**

TRUDY 36yrs, wltm broadminded men of any age/area for daytime meetings. **Text Only 4550194**

ALISON 27yr old very bored broadminded female with plenty of free time on her hands looking for some adult fun times. Call me, I won't disappoint. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 415177**

65YR old white guy, seeking black female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413733**

MELANIE, 38, slim, blonde and bored. Call if you want no strings fun. **Text Only 4550198**

DEE lonely divorced female, slim, bubbly, attractive redhead, loves cuddles, looking for a man who can restore my faith in love and make me laugh. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414961**

JENNI, 52 bored housewife wants no strings fun with younger chap. **Text Only 4550197**

JACKIE extremely sensual lady but for your eyes only! likes horses, keeping fit, gardening looking for genuine love interest and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414721**

TERI separated single lady, blonde, blue eyes, slim, WLTM compatible male for genuine friendship, meals out, weekends away, nights out and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414361**

EMMA slim 5ft 8ins, single employed female with OHAC, enjoys many interests, gym, music, easy-going, genuine, supportive, seeking similar male for a chat, maybe a date. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414957**

JEAN slim blonde divorcee bubbly affectionate, romantic with lots of love to give, looking for man who knows how to look after a lady for meals in/out, friendship/ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414699**

DEBBIE brown eyed attractive social female, romantic, good listener, loves children, looking for similar nice male/dad to get to know, hopefully leading to more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414383**

CAROL giggly blonde lovely loyal, not desperate for a man just tired of not finding a decent one so thought I wld try this, pls call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413579**

JULIE good looking 40's female, medium build, size 12, loveable, considerate, OHAC, likes nights in/out, walking, seeking loving male without lots of baggage. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414387**

HELEN 19yr old bubbly female looking for male to take me out and show me a good time. No pressure just fun times, no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414223**

JANE mature blonde, enjoys most things in life, adventurous, fun, seeks male, 55 plus, any culture. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414149**

BLUE eyed slim pretty easy going hardworking lady seeking male to put the spark back into my life, must be honest, affectionate, have a GSOH and wont to work at a relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414217**

JANE 29, loves riding and spending time horsing around, seeking non serious kind of normal guy who enjoys going out having a good time. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414205**

KAREN young looking attractive vibrant slim blonde, enjoys to keep fit, beach walks, travel, meals in/out, good conversation with pleasant company, WLTM genuine sincere male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414203**

MARY tall blonde size 12 lady, nice personality, good conversationalist, varied and open to interests, loves weekends away/holidays, seeking similar male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414179**

ANN 40's female looking for male for broadminded adult fun, no strings. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412369**

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JANE 48yr old young looking professional female, tall, green eyes, attractive, size 12-14, enjoys walking, keeping active, nights in/out, good wine/conversation, seeking soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414729**

ELAINE 30, fit, sexy, curvy black lady, very feminine, loves wining, dining, nights in, seeks solvent white 40's male who is passionate, loving and caring. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414711**

DAWN 34, petite auburn haired female, size 12, sensitive, loving, affectionate, WLTM similar homely male who will spend lots of quality times with me for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414499**

KAREN 35 petite dark hair/eyed affectionate, caring, lovely female with many interests looking for genuine tlc from loving soul mate, dark haired preferred. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414487**

CAROLINE 30's attractive blonde workaholic, seeking handsome guy up for 47yrs to add some fun and sparkle back into my life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413845**

33YR old 6ft blonde ex model who loves to have a good time and enjoy life to the full, looking to meet fun time guy with no hang ups or issues for uncomplicated romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413863**

LINDA attractive slim nurse looking for loving relationship with non serious male who like me is lonely and just looking for a special person. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413425**

GILL 59, blonde, attractive, likes cinema, walks, meals out, holidays, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413787**

PAT attractive slim curly haired tall professional, not looking for drawn out romance just the fun stuff to fit into my busy lifestyle, non-judgemental people pls call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413405**

JULIE young at heart outgoing loves to dance, long distance running, social drinking, travel, OHAC, WLTM that special person to make my life complete as I have so much to give. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413209**

CINDY 31yr old first time advertiser attractive, girly size 12, looking for my soul male, I enjoy romance, the finer things in life and seek similar. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413577**

BECKY 38 size 10, big blue eyes, considered stunning, honest, fun and caring, looking for similar kind of person to enjoy fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412593**

SARAH attractive 25yr old single female, slim, feminine with long hair and big eyes, enjoys being fit and healthy, socialising, WLTM male 18-35 for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413423**

CARRIE 29yr old fun single mum who enjoys cosy nights in, music, travel, occasional night out, concert, travel, seeking romantic male 30-45. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413019**

WENDY 5ft 9ins, 59, likes walks, seeking honest, caring male for companionship and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413551**

CARLY mid 30's bubbly outgoing genuine female seeking similar sincere down to earth male to enjoy socialising, beach walks, romantic walks and cosy evenings in, 35-50yrs **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412935**

LISA 19 young inexperienced and lonely, 5ft 5ins, very curvy and cuddly build, loves shopping, going out, seeking fun loving understanding mature guy for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412913**

BECKY 30's slim size 10, big blue eyes, considered stunning, fun, caring, seeking reliable guy to enjoy nice times with, no ties or complications pls. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412595**

LOREN pretty petite 24yr old female, likes swimming, walking, cosy night in watching a movie, seeking caring well built loving male with nice personality 30-45. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413015**

JULIE 46yr single female, long dark blonde hair, big blue eyes, loves home cooking followed by cuddles on the sofa with a nice wine, seeking genuine male, no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412907**

BECKY 38yrs stunning size 10, big blue eyes, feminine, long hair, honest, fun, seeks honest reliable male to go out with, have a nice time and some much needed fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412597**

LYN 76, fit, seeks gent, 60 plus, N/s, clean shaven, no animals for companionship/relationship. Reading area. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412803**

LESLEY intelligent attractive slim female, enthusiastic, loves life, interests, looking good and keeping fit, seeks similar passionate Mr Wonderful. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412323**

LAUREN 24yr old petite blue eyed barmaid, slim brunette, pretty, sporty, likes cosy nights in, WLTM caring well built easygoing male for meets, 30-45yrs. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 411211**

CHERYL 21yr old single mum of one, slim, attractive, long hair, seeking true honest male up to 40yrs to put some fun back into life. Single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412385**

Men seeking women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras.

ASIAN male, 37, normal build, seeking Indian female for uncomplicated friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 411663**

KEITH 55, 5 foot 5 slim short silver hair, likes a drink and a laugh, varied interests seeking woman similar age. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4182520**

57YR old white gent, seeks lady for LTR. Age/looks/nationality unimportant, must be genuine and sincere. **0906 500 3674 Box No: 411467**

PETER 66, 5ft 9ins, fair hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes countryside, seaside, animals, nights in, seeks female for LTR. Any age/status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 410723**

JAMES, hard working single dad, late 30's seeks single mum for family days out. **Text Only 4550196**

ATTRACTIVE 35yr old male, seeks lady for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 409769**

JOHN, 42yrs professional genuine gent seeks caring lady to treat as a princess. **Text Only 4550195**

WHITE gent 58, fun, good looking, seeks lady friend, any age. London. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 353301**

ALEX genuine Scottish male, 53, GSOH, solvent, no ties, seeks female with GSOH for nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414441**

54YR old male, likes countryside, animals, meals out, history, DIY, F1, seeking female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 414141**

ROBIN 50, half Swedish, tall, slim, likes meals out, music, seeking tall, unconventional girl, 40-60, happy in heels or wellies. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412781**

MALE semi-retired, practical, musical, seeks black lady to spoil and pamper. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412203**

NEGLECTED male seeks female for daytime chats, coffee, lunches and discreet adult passion. Age/status unimportant, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 406805**

ATTRACTIVE ex model, 42 seeing regular daytime fun, age/race/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 379963**

JASON 42, self employed, 6ft 2ins, attractive, toned, firm, athletic, seeks daytime discreet meets with passionate fun female up to 59. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413331**

TALL black male, seeking no strings fun with female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413271**

WHITE male, 50, seeks genuine, loyal, sincere black female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413261**

DAVID mid 50's, seeking mature adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413135**

KEVIN 46, 6ft 6ins, seeks lady for friendship, maybe more, honest, truthful, various interests, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413119**

40YR old average blond hair, blue eyed male, seeks female for fun and friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 412851**

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 388372**

OLDER woman 65 plus wanted by younger, tall male with OHAC and GSOH, hardworking, self sufficient for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 405055**

BERNARD 63, brown hair/eyes, seeking lady for soul mate, romance and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 409883**

BLACK male, 6ft 2ins, shaved head, seeking white female, brunette/dark hair. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 409789**

Follow us on twitter @datelocally

RELIABLE black male, 50, 5ft 10ins, outgoing, funny, fit, seeks honest female wanting true love and happiness. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 407903**

MID 50's XL retired male, own car, accommodation, honest, caring, loving, romantic, loves animals, music, outdoor life seeks someone to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 406601**

TREVOR 51, likes nights in/out, pubs, clubs, walks, seeking female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 409023**

DAVE 50's, widower, healthy, loving, kind, seeking female, 30 plus for friendship, possibly more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 408601**

BLACK male, seeks white female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 405703**

MALE 46, kind, loving, WLTM genuine lady 45-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 404301**

57YR old male, 5ft 8ins, brown eyes, widower, seeking female, 30-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 408041**

STEVEN attractive male, seeking no strings meets in Hemel/Aylesbury areas. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 375197**

PAUL 50 5ft 10ins, GSOH, caring, seeks female 40-50 in MK for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 405141**

WARM genuine, black male, employed, reliable, caring, enjoys socialising, seeks lady for laughter and romantic adventures. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 396193**

MALE 49, tall, slim, likes countryside, animals, walks, music, history, nights in, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 407189**

DEREK 63, easy going, seeking female for share fun and life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 407581**

STEVE part time carer, looking to meet female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 406075**

MALE 45, WLTM natural redhead 40-60 for friendship and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 393773**

GOOD looking male, 39, likes sports, fitness, friendly, fun, seeks female for discreet fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 375060**

MALE 42, seeks black female, slim, 40-45 for LTR. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 371854**

1960'S Australian import, good bodywork, strong, well serviced V8 engine, garaged in Wokingham, call for no strings test drive. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 407315**

ATTRACTIVE 35yr old male, seeks lady who dresses to please for nights out and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 361597**

GRAHAM 51, looking for uncomplicated adult fun, age/looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 407105**

MALE 49, tall, slim, likes countryside, animals, walks, romantic, tactile, own flat, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 407055**

Men seeking men

GUY 61, bi, 5ft 10ins, medium build, seeking similar male for discreet fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 413741**

RICHARD 48, gay, blond hair, blue eyes, chubby, big hearted, seeks younger, slim, gay white/Asian male for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 341842**

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MK BUSINESS

Louis carves out a future in stone mason business

BY SARAH LEE
editor@mk-news.co.uk

Carved out: Louis Francis has overcome his hearing impairment to form a successful stone mason business, Francis Stone Design

LONG-TERM unemployment is now a thing of the past for Louis Francis, who has overcome the challenges of being deaf to start his own stone mason's business.

Mr Francis sought help and advice from national employment, learning and skills charity, Shaw Trust, who supported him on the Work Choice programme.

He was given help to complete a business plan and start trading under Francis Stone Design as a stone mason.

Supported by staff at Shaw Trust's Milton Keynes centre on South Fifth Street, Louis was assigned to the charity's Work Choice Employment Advisor, Kevin Daniells, who helped him to set out an action plan that would enable him to become self-employed.

Louis now runs a successful business – Francis Stone Design – a stone carving business that produces high quality artwork.

Francis Stone Design offers a bespoke range of hand-carved products from memorials to house signs and plaques. Products can be viewed at **http://www.francisstonedesign.co.uk/**

Louis said: "Without the support of the Work Choice programme, I would not have had the confidence to set up my own business. The scheme equipped me with the skills and know-how to draft a business plan and understand codes of practice, laws and regulations.

"Thanks to the programme, setting up a business went from being a scary prospect to an achievable goal – all of my fears dissipated with the support of Lokman Consulting and Shaw Trust. Entrepreneurs are the backbone of the British economy and I would encourage more people from the disabled community to consider starting their own business."

340 jobs created in Volkwagen expansion

VOLKSWAGEN Financial Services have announced that they are to create an additional 340 jobs in Milton Keynes by 2018.

Already employing 650 people in a variety of roles, this key growth will see the profile of the Milton Keynes based head office increase significantly.

Facilitating their vast growth strategy will be development of their £36m new office. This next stage in their growth marks the start of a very exciting period in the company's history.

Situated at the former River Island premises in Delaware Road, the new head office building will feature sleek curves intersected by straight lines and provide 100,000 sq ft of space over four floors.

Internally, it will include flexible working spaces, a theatre-style conference centre and a staff restaurant and coffee shop.

The new building is expected to open at the end of this month.

Graham Wheeler, Managing Director of Volkswagen Financial Services commented: 'Our move to these new offices will allow us to remain close to our sister company, The Volkswagen Group in Yeomans Drive. It also secures the future of VWFS as a major contributor to the economy of Milton Keynes."

Jobs offered at IMAX cinema

ODEON have announced that they are now recruiting employees to work at the new IMAX cinema it is opening in Milton Keynes.

The 11-screen multiplex will have an IMAX screen, which produces an image approximately ten times larger than standard 35 mm film.

It will also house a premier retail offering and a Costa Coffee when it opens in March at MK1 Shopping and Leisure Park in Denbigh .

MK1 is situated adjacent to stadiummk, and is being funded by The Crown Estate and InterMK, which is MK Dons chairman Pete Winkelman's development company.

Winkelman told MK NEWS he was 'very excited' with the IMAX that will open.

He said: "I made it very clear that we wanted an IMAX, and this will be the closest screen of its kind for many miles.

"When it opens it will be the most advanced cinema in the country."

An ODEON spokesman said: "We cannot wait to open the curtains to the Milton Keynes community. We will be releasing more details soon and we believe it will become the perfect venue for film in 2015."

DON'T MISS OUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO ALL THINGS IMAX
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Have you got a business story?
Send all the details to dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk or call 01908 689582

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MKBUSINESS

Simulator irons out players' golf skills

BY SARAH LEE
editor@mk-news.co.uk

A 'GOLFING heaven' has been created in an industrial warehouse in Newport Pagnell.

A new indoor golf simulator is offering a real golfing experience, without the soggy greens and freezing cold early morning tee-offs.

iPlayGolf has five state-of-the-art simulators the use Foresight GC2 and HMT technology, enabling players to select from 28 world class golf courses.

There is also a driving range, SAM Puttlab and practice facilities, plus professional coaching for individuals and groups. And it hasn't forgotten the 19th hole with a licensed bar and café.

iPlayGolf caters equally for golfing performance improvement and pure entertainment. A place where total beginners, hackers, regular players, scratch golfers and touring pros play side-by-side.

Director of iPlay Golf, Neil Wilcox from Newport Pagnell, said: "I used to own a public sector financial management consultancy company (LG Futures). It was a very successful business (it still is!) but, about four years ago, as a way of getting away from the stresses of work I took up golf…and got completely hooked!

"I found that I loved taking clients out on the golf course and spent all my free time trying to improve my game.

"After about three years, I decided that I would actually prefer to be in the golfing/leisure industry, so sold up my stake in the company to my business partner and set-up iPlayGolf.

"The concept for iPlayGolf was honed by my general manager (Simon Avery) and I, over many hours on the golf course.

"We wanted to create golfing heaven – a place where all golfers, whatever their ability, could play, practice and buy the latest kit.

"We tried the golf simulator at Woburn Golf Club and realised that the technology could be what we were looking for. We then spent eight months trying to find a suitable venue for iPlayGolf before settling on Interchange House in Newport Pagnell."

To the fore: iPlayGolf, set up by Neil Wilcox, is aiming to create 'golfing heaven' for beginners and experienced players alike

HOW TO GET YOUR PENSIONS REALLY WORKING FOR YOU

Do you suffer a bout of MYEGO when you receive documentation in the post about your pension? Before you ask me what is MYEGO let me explain. It stands for My Eyes Glaze Over. You'll be pleased to know it's not a medical condition!

It is perfectly understandable to get perplexed over pensions. Documentation is often confusing, full of jargon and gobbledegook. We understand how you feel.

When you commission us to prepare a pension review and you read it you will find that suddenly what was once confusing is now understandable. What was gobbledegook is now clear English and what was jargon is now plain English.

Our pension review reports are written in plain English, they are very clear and explain everything about your pension in an easily understandable way.

We compare the performance of your existing pension against our recommended pension for the same period of time you have had your existing pension. We compare charges. We confirm what the transfer penalty is, if any. We use a checklist of 7 of the most common guarantees and benefits that could be lost on a pension transfer and let you know whether any of them apply to your existing pension.

Tony Byrne
Chartered and Certified Financial Planner
Author of Wealth Magic

Finally we give you a list of the advantages and disadvantages of leaving your pension where it is or transferring it to a new recommended pension.

Clients who have read our pension reviews have generally found that for the first time they understand their pensions. A typical comment we receive is "It all makes sense."

Let me give you the results of a recent pension review we carried out.

Pension fund value £92,511.

Existing pension charges 1.10% p.a. Recommended pension charges 1.26% p.a.

Existing pension returns 4.42% p.a. Recommended pension returns 10.2% p.a.

Guarantees or benefits lost on transfer? None out of a possible 7.

Transfer penalty £418.

Client's response after studying the report was "It's a no brainer to transfer it."

There are cases where it is not beneficial to transfer in which case we advise clients against transferring their pensions.

If you are approaching retirement and/or considering early retirement and need advice why not get in touch?

We offer a great cup of coffee too!

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To find out more why not come to one of our free seminars at our Furzton Lake offices? As an alternative to a seminar we are offering a free pension review worth £270 to the first 10 people who contact us before 4 February 2015. The offer is subject to qualifying conditions. This is an "either or" offer.

Ring us on 01908 523740 or for free on 0800 980 4516 or email wealth@wealthandtax.co.uk. ©LW

City Link staff offered lifeline

CITY Link staff who have lost their jobs could get a lifeline after former rival TNT said it was recruiting.

Delivery company TNT has announced vacancies for driving and warehouse jobs, as well as a variety of other opportunities that could offer ex-City Link workers employment opportunities.

City Link announced it was entering administration on Christmas Eve, with an estimated 91 staff in Milton Keynes made redundant.

Simon Harper, director of operations for TNT UK, said: "While it is unfortunate that City Link – one of our competitors – has ceased to trade, TNT cannot ignore the opportunity to draw on some of the expertise within the City Link business.

"Across our operation at TNT's three domestic hubs and at various locations throughout the UK, we are looking to further recruit in our warehouses, traffic offices and in all driver categories.

"There is also a wide range of other positions available at, for example, our customer service contact centres where we continue to look for the right people to join our team."

The Milton Keynes centre is based in Northfield Drive, Northfield.

Parcel delivery service DX has paid £1.25million for City Link assets and said it was doing 'all it can to provide opportunities for former City Link employees and contractors and to offer solutions to customers who may need a new carrier'.

Drivers interested in careers at TNT should visit recruitadmin@tnt.co.uk or call 01827 303030.

Holiday park specialist firm on Sunday Times Fast Track

MILTON Keynes-based holiday park specialist Bridge Leisure has been named one of the UK's fastest growing businesses in the annual Sunday Times Virgin Fast Track 100.

Bridge Leisure, which is in Linford Wood and owns and manages holiday parks across the UK, was ranked 26th in the league table of 100 private companies with the fastest growing sales over three years.

The company was formed by a small team of holiday park experts in 2008 to provide professional management support and consultancy for the caravan holiday park industry.

It owns three holiday parks in Cornwall, Yorkshire and Ayrshire, and works with many more across the UK.

Andrew Howe, chief executive at Bridge Leisure, said: "Our aim is to maintain our rapid growth. We have the funding and appetite in place to quickly acquire new parks and we welcome the opportunity to discuss opportunities before they come to the market."

Andrew Howe, chief executive, with Simon Williams, operations director, and Simon Elliot, finance director

PUNCH

PATRICK PUNCH & CO.

Prime Retail Units A1/A3,

Opposite John Lewis and located on Midsummer Boulevard, this property has been stripped to a shell and is suitable for A1 retail use or A3 restaurant/cafe use.

- Unit 1 is 2,174 sq ft Ground Floor & 1,097 sq ft First Floor
- Unit 2 is 1,487 sq ft Ground Floor & 893 sq ft First Floor
- Over 1,000 parking spaces in the vicinity
- Available to let on a new lease basis for a length of lease to be agreed
- Benefits from double height and fully glazed shop fronts
- Adjacent to the new Post Office and Milton Keynes Theatre
- Linking Thecentre:mk to Xscape

Quoting rents on application

Unit 2b, Exchange House,

- A1 Retail Unit
- Ground Floor 1,136 sq ft
- Upper Basement 614 sq ft
- Lower Basement 546 sq ft

The Triangle, Wolverton Park,

- Two retail units available
- Ground floor, fully glazed frontage
- Suit variety of uses
- 1,146 sq ft and 1,005 sq ft

599 Avebury Boulevard,

- Self contained offices
- Ground Floor - 4,541 sq ft
- First Floor - 5,763 sq ft
- Second Floor - 5,763 sq ft

Unit 20b, Food Centre,

- Suit retail, leisure or A3/A4 stp
- First floor unit approx. 8,300 sq ft
- Lift from mall level
- Extensive window frontage

Oakgrove , Milton Keynes

With 1,005 new homes under construction, including a school and nursery, Oakgrove Village boasts strong prospects for future population growth. Units 4, 5 and 6 are available to let.

- Unit 4 is 1,452 sq ft; Unit 5 is 3,160 sq ft and Unit 6 is 1,252 sq ft
- Planning consent for A1/A2/A3/A4 use
- Anchored by a new Waitrose supermarket (42,590 sq ft)
- Recent opening for Costa Coffee and Metro Bank (6,000 sq ft)
- 330 free car parking spaces
- Located 2.5 miles outside the city centre close to Junction 14 of the M1

Quoting rents on application

Bushmead Centre, Luton,

- 7b is 1,100 sq ft; 7a is 525 sq ft
- A1 use or A2/A3/A5 subject to planning
- Anchored by Budgens
- Dominent local centre

Netherfield - Retail Opportunities,

- Anchored by The Cooperative
- Dominent local centre
- Units available from 1,000 - 2,500 sq ft
- Expressions of interest now invited

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MKBUSINESS

Job lot: Andy Keech from Campbell Park in the city has launched mym8te.co.uk – a website which links people with recommended tradespeople

Mates will rate best in business

BY SARAH LEE
editor@mk-news.co.uk

WHEN you need a job doing by a tradesman you can trust, what better than a recommendation from a friend?

Entrepreneur Andy Keech, 40, who lives in Campbell Park, is capitalising on this with mym8te.co.uk – a website that enables users to find people to carry out jobs who have been recommended by their friends, family members and contacts.

He first came up with the idea in 2006 when Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn were not yet part of our everyday lives.

The site was finally launched in June 2014 and has already notched up 1,000 users. It allows tradespeople to register and then ask satisfied customers to log on and give feedback.

Members of the public can then go on the site and search for plumbers, hairdressers, website designers and many other traders and read real-time customer feedback, all for free.

But the difference between MyM8te and other rating websites is that, once registered, the user can invite their own friends and family to join the site and connect with them, so they can all see each other's recommendations – something that no other rating website does.

Andy said: "It took a while for people to get the idea at first, but as online networking grew in popularity, MyM8te made more and more sense.

"People love to share, rate and comment on things online. That's why MyM8te works so well.

"People find it intuitive and see how it is a win-win for them and their friends. Their mates get a job done by someone who is trusted and their other mates get to extend their network of customers."

"The idea stems from people always saying 'my mate is a plumber, or – my mate can do that job for you etc."

By March 2015, the site will have a Facebook app, which will push the site even further and link customers with their Facebook friends.

Refurbished pub on market for £590k

A VILLAGE pub has been put up for sale – just two years after being refurbished and rebranded.

The Malting House, in Stoke Goldington's High Street, has been listed for sale for £590,000 by Taylor & Co Property Consultants.

The pub recently closed due to 'staffing problems', but it has now been listed on Right Move. The description states: "The property is in very good order having been bought and totally refurbished some two years ago.

"This included a large of amount of work that improved the electrics and plumbing, as well as a newly fitted out cellar and a commercial kitchen. This a slightly unusual opportunity given the completeness of the public house as a going concern. We would encourage parties interested in running their own business to take a good look around."

Before becoming The Malting House, the pub was known as The White Hart.

Make gym use fit for purpose

AT THIS time of year gym memberships are big business, with profits to be made for gyms and losses to be made in weight for those intent on getting fit.

Callum Bonthrone, general manager at PureGym Milton Keynes, *pictured*, offers his top tips on how to achieve your goals in 2015.

Have a training buddy: You are more likely to go to the gym or for a run if you have a friend to go with.

Set targets: How many times have you given up as you had not lost that unwanted stone in the first two weeks of January?

Specific: What exactly is it that you want to achieve? Losing weight is not specific but losing 14lb is.

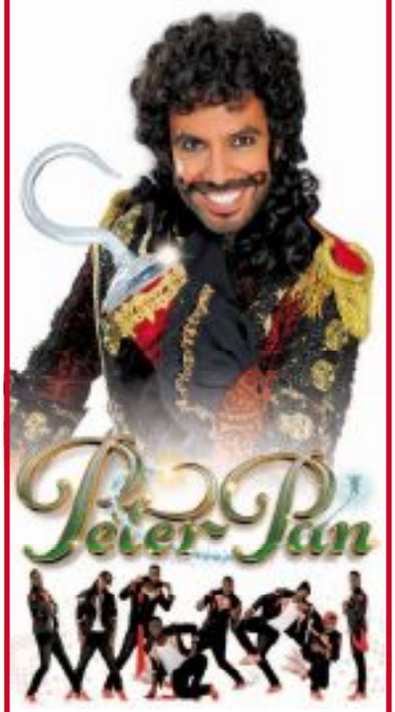
Measurable: How will you measure your goal? If you want to improve your running distance, for example, measure your routes so you can see the improvements you're making.

Get a programme or personal trainer: Having a person that you have to answer to makes all the difference, this is why weekly weight management sessions work so well.

■ To become a member of PureGym visit www.puregym.com

FIND OUT ABOUT GYM OFFERS AND OTHER WAYS TO GET FIT
VISIT OUR WEBSITE - WWW.MKWEB.CO.UK

HOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!



MILTON KEYNES THEATRE

5 DEC - 11 JAN

Abandon ship: Captain Hook and his Flawless bunch of pirates will soon come to the end of their panto voyage

Crew get ready to sling their hooks

IT'S THE final week of panto. Just 10 shows left to go.

And that can only mean one thing – the Peter Pan Flawless Pirate Crew are getting ready to scrub the decks for the very last time, Hook's hanging up his Tricorn hat, Smee's sorting through a lorry load of stripy socks for the wash and Tink's off to polish her wand ready for next year.

But before the Jolly Roger sets sail on Sunday there's still the silliness of the 'COD' and the chaos of the 'muck-up matinee' (a couple of traditions no panto would be the same without) to chase away the New Year blues.

COD stands for Crew On Display and at MK Theatre it's the technical and back of house team's chance to turn the tables to put on a performance for the cast of the panto and entertain them and the rest of the theatre staff.

The COD is a show based on the panto – where the script is adapted to reflect some of the backstage goings on and funny events that have happened during the run to the cast and crew.

If anything funny happens over panto it will end up in the COD – there's no hiding anything. Everyone enjoys the chance to let their hair down and join in the fun.

The COD is only open to theatre staff and the cast but there is another tradition you could get involved in and that is the 'muck up matinee'.

Tradition dictates that on the final matinee of any long-running show or pantomime, the cast and crew will play numerous silly pranks on each other, all in the name of fun and without detracting from the show too much.

This can be anything from changing lines to trip each other up, stealing each other's props and even getting the crew on stage. Anyone watching the matinee on Sunday this week will have what's guaranteed to be some real giggles.

This performance is always a memorable one for the audience as the cast try and hold it together.

If you want to join in the fun you can book some of the last few tickets but shhhh…don't tell anyone we told you, it's a 'secret'!

So this is your last chance to join Bradley Walsh and the crew of Peter Pan. There's still a few tickets left, so make sure you hook yours now. If you can't make it we'll leave you with this comforting thought – it's only 330 sleeps until Aladdin opens for the 2015/16 season. Oh yes it is!

Your best tweets from panto land

Your tweets just keep on coming with all that #mkpeterpan love! Here's a few of our top tweets from the last week.

@clarabelleH – Starting my 2015 theatre year with Peter Pan @MKTheatre. My fav fairy story *and* @flawlessUK. What's not to love?!

@MDandG – @MKTheatre @flawlessUK just finished watching the panto...It was just awesome.

@xxmelliemoo19xx – @MKTheatre @BradleyWalsh definitely knows how to make the audience laugh. Never laughed so much x

@thecomedycow – Great show this evening at PeterPan in @MKTheatre with @BradleyWalsh @VictoriaTyrrell @flawlessUK. Quirky and very, very funny #5toiletrolls

■ An international Twitter follower arrived all the way from Japan – @ChiekoSunflower who came to see the show five times. Keep tweeting @MKTheatre #MKPeterPan

Pan fans take home tickets in competition

FOUR lucky MK NEWS and MKWeb readers won a ticket to see Peter Pan for a family of four – just by entering our competitions.

The succesful entrants all correctly guessed which Pan characters were in each dressing room.

MK NEWS and MKWeb have been hosting the competitions over the last four weeks in our role as media partner for the Milton Keynes Theatre production.

The lucky winners were Connie O'Gormley, The Brown Family from Olney, Ros Verrall and Kay Harvey.

■ We hope they all enjoy the show with their friends and family. We have a whole host of competitions with great prizes to enter online. Just visit www.mkweb.co.uk/competitions

MILTON KEYNES THEATRE

FRI 5 DEC - SUN 11 JAN
0844 8717652 (bkg fee)
www.atgtickets.com/miltonkeynes (bkg fee)

MKlife

your guide to leisure in your city

Leisure or events news? e-mail **editor@mk-news.co.uk** phone **01908 689595**

Theatre becomes house of horrors

THE show that stormed into the finals of Britain's Got Talent and is now a West End smash is back to mark its 20th anniversary in spectacular style with a new show, The Night of the Zombie.

The Circus of Horrors is visiting Milton Keynes Theatre for a one night only show on Tuesday, starting dead on 7.30pm.

The latest incarnation, The Night of the Zombie, is set in 2020, a decrepit and corpse-ridden London, plagued by a swamp of zombies. In a city ruled by the undead, the climax is an awesome flaming apocalypse.

The story twists and turns with grisly murders and sensational shocks – all interwoven with some of the greatest and most bizarre circus acts on earth – sword swallowers, knife throwers, daredevil balancing acts, astounding aerialists, a demon dwarf, a Guinness World Record holding 'hairculian' hair hanging beauty, Sinister Sisters, gyrating and fire limboing acrobats and much more.

It is performed by an almighty cast with a forked tongue firmly in each cheek and the devil driver rock n' roll of Dr Haze & The Interceptors from Hell.

Tickets cost between £18.90 and £28.90. Buy yours at www.atgtickets.com/venues/milton-keynes-theatre/ or call the box office on 08444 993 666.

online for more leisure news visit **mkweb.co.uk**

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Friday 30th
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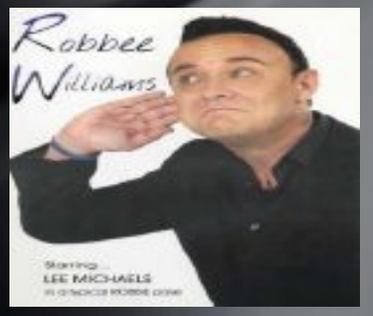

Friday 23rd January
Ultimate Robbie
£25pp

All our theme nights include a superb hot and cold buffet with a choice of sweets, cheeses and our fabulous chocolate fountain, DJ and Live Act.

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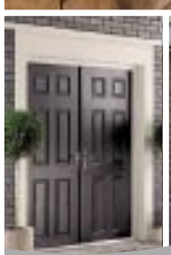

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baysdock

ALTERNATIVE indie four-piece rock band New Bays are set to get the audience jumping on Friday night.

The band, formed a little over two years ago and consisting of Adam Bennett (lead vocals and guitar), Nathan Parsons (guitar), Charlie Sweet (bass) and Jack Sylvester (drums), have made quite a name for themselves and in October they featured on BBC 3 Counties Introducing with an acoustic set.

Fresh from recording at Echo Studios in Buckingham, the New Bays will perform a full set of up-beat originals with heavy influences from the Kings of Leon and the Artic Monkeys at the Craufurd Arms in Stratford Road, Wolverton.

Ticket cost £5 and doors open at 7.30pm.

cavedweller

MK GALLERY'S Friday Night Film this week is 20,000 Days On Earth.

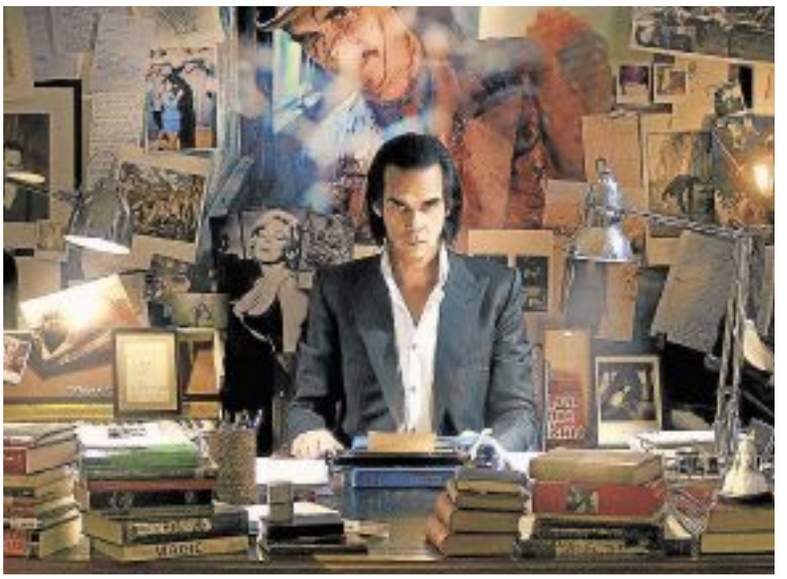
Drama and reality combine in a fictitious 24 hours in the life of musician and international cultural icon Nick Cave.

The film takes us deep into the heart of how myth, memory, love and loss shape our lives, every single day.

We meet those who have affected Nick's life, including regular musical-collaborator Warren Ellis; actor and friend Ray Winstone; former Bad Seed Blixa Bargeld and Kylie Minogue, with whom he duetted with on Where The Wild Roses Grow.

The film premiered at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival, where it won the World Cinema Documentary awards for directing and editing.

Tickets for the 7.30pm screening, which is certificate 15, are £5, or £3 for concessions. To book call 01908 676900.



CHRISTMAS is a time when we all overindulge – and this includes our pets.

We can make resolutions to lose weight and this can extend to the pets as well!

Obesity is one of the most common issues we see in pets. Obesity is defined as being 20-25 per cent over an ideal body weight in humans and this would be similar for pets.

A pet being overweight can cause similar secondary problems as found in humans.

These include diabetes, heart disease, respiratory distress, joint problems, high blood pressure and certain types of cancers.

Obesity is completely preventable and is also reversible.

If you are not sure if your pet may be overweight, there are a number of ways to check at home.

You should easily be able to feel the outline of your pet's ribs without feeling excess fat.

When looking from above, you should be able to see the waistline when they are standing up.

Your pet's tummy should be tucked up when looking from the side.

If you are still not sure, you can always book an appointment with your vet or nurse to check your pet.

If your pet is found to be overweight most veterinary surgeries provide weight clinics to help them lose weight.

These clinics can help you set a diet and exercise plan for your pet.

You can read more tips online at **www.mkweb.co.uk**.

YOU may have made a news year's resolution to lose weight but what about your four legged friend? Vet AMY CONVERSE from Vets4Pets in Bletchley tells MK LIFE why it's important to watch our pet's weight

MKlife Comedy MK Gallery Night In Family Life

funnyshow

WINNER of ITV's Show Me The Funny Patrick Monahan will headline the Comedy Cow on January 22.

The funny and adorable Irish-Iranian-Teessider comedian knows how to work a room and engage an audience, with a strongly skilled blend of ad lib banter and stand-up.

Patrick has worked his way up the comedy circuit ladder and is now a regular MC and headlining act at the top London and UK comedy clubs.

He has performed at the Edinburgh Comedy Festival for a number of years at the Gilded Balloon.

On the undercard, following impressive performances and wowing audiences at The Latitude, V and Reading festivals in 2013, Elliot Steel is the new must-see comic name to watch out for in 2015. Paul Revill and Erika Benning will also perform at the gig, which starts at 8.15pm. For tickets, costing £8, visit www.ticketsource.co.uk.

artattack

IT'S your last chance to see the New City Art Prize at MK Gallery, which finishes its run on Sunday.

The exhibition features the work of Beatrice Gibson, Siobhán Hapaska, Jimmy Merris and Roger Palmer, the artists shortlisted for the inaugural MK Community Foundation £10,000 New City Art Prize for the Visual Arts.

likingvikings

I BOUGHT my girlfriend Vikings on DVD for Christmas and having watched the first series it really is quality television, writes Scott Kirk.

It's not one for kids as it's quite gory, but the characters are absolutely compelling and some of the best in television.

The fearsome main character of Ragnar Lothbrok is played by Travis Fimmel, who is majestic in the role. Everything seems to amuse him and he captures everything I would have imagined a Viking to be.

The first two series are available on DVD now and the third series is coming to the History Channel later this year.

I know I'll be watching the third series and I urge you to do the same.

softplay

VISIT one of the city's newest soft play centres, Safari MK.

While parents can enjoy a coffee and some food at the Watering Hole, the children can run wild in the five playrooms.

They can fix some things in the Builders' Yard, cook or shop in the Supplies & Mess Hut, or have dance on the dance mats in the Entertainment Hut.

There are also three levels of soft play designed for ages from one to 12 years old.

The venue at Kiln Farm is open seven days a week from 9.30am to 6pm.

Under ones can visit for free and entrance for children aged one to three costs £5.95 before 3.30pm and £4.50 after. Four to 12-year-olds' entry is £7.95 and £4.50 after school. Adults and 13 to 17-year-olds cost £1.50 or £1 after 3.30pm.

Join our growing network of followers

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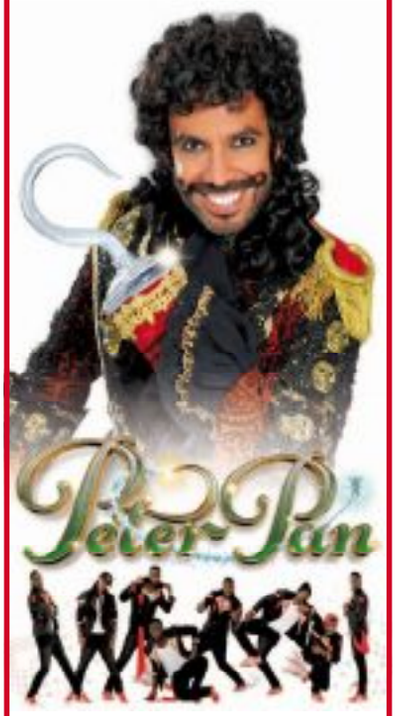
HOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!



MILTON KEYNES THEATRE

5 DEC - 11 JAN

TheParksTrust MILTON KEYNES

WHAT'S ON

www.theparkstrust.com

January

Thu 8 Jan
WOMEN'S WALKING NETWORK
Meet at Campbell Park Pavilion, Silbury Boulevard.
Campbell Park 10am £1/person

Sat 10 Jan
DISCOVER: HEDGEROW BASKET MAKING – COLLECTION DAY
Must be booked with March making days. Cost includes tuition on collection, making days and all materials. Park in the car park off H7 Chaffron Way opposite the Westcroft Centre.
Howe Park Wood Education Centre 10am – 3pm £80 for all 3 course days.

Tue 13 Jan
BEEKEEPING TALK
Evening talk about beekeeping. Park in the car park off H7 Chaffron Way opposite the Westcroft Centre.
Howe Park Wood Education Centre 7.30pm £2/person

Sat 24 Jan
OUR CHANGING WILDLIFE TALK
Afternoon talk about British wildlife. Park in the car park off H7 Chaffron Way opposite the Westcroft Centre.
Howe Park Wood Education Centre 2pm £2/person

For your **FREE** events guide for 2015 register on our website **www.theparkstrust.com**

Book online, email **events@theparkstrust.com** or call **01908 255379**

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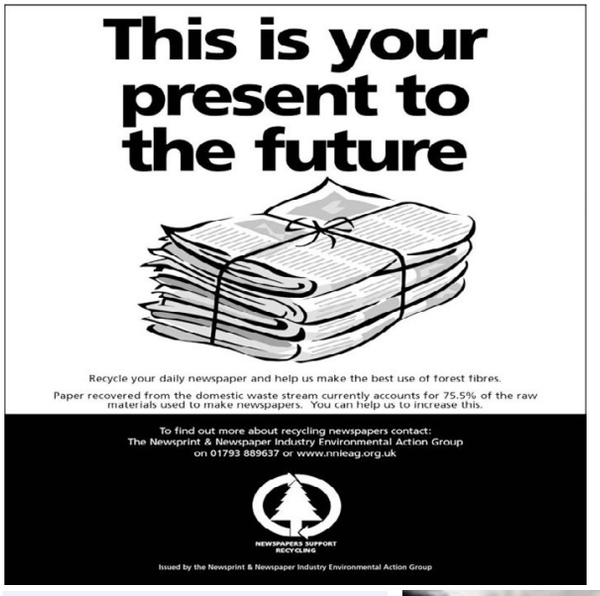

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the stables

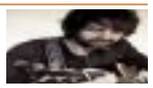
Friday 9 January, 8pm **SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED**
Some say this is the best soul revue of its kind in Europe!
Last few tickets remaining **Tickets £24**

Saturday 10 January, 8pm **LARRY MILLER BAND**
One of the UK's must-see blues/rock guitarists
Tickets £16

Sunday 11 January, 8pm **SALLY BARKER**
Finalist on BBC TV's The Voice and lead singer of The Poozies
Tickets £15

Thursday 15 January, 8pm **CHRIS STANDRING BAND**
Soul/jazz/funk from Chris's new album Don't Talk, Dance!
Tickets £15

Friday 16 January, 8pm **JON ALLEN BAND**
Soulful tunes from Jon's latest album Deep River
Tickets £13.50



The Laine Dankworth Centre
Wavendon, Milton Keynes

Handling charges apply to all bookings
+ online bookings subject to ticket processing fee

MKlife

Gig guide | Competitions | Movies | MK Theatre

larrymiller

LARRY Miller is undeniably one of the must-see blues and rock guitarists.

Well-known for his high octane shows he continues to wow audiences at UK and European Festivals. He's produced barnstorming sets at the Reading Festival and holds the record for the most encores at The Cambridge Rock Festival.

Larry Miller plays The Stables at 8pm on Saturday. Tickets cost £16 from www.stables.org or by calling 01908 280800.

WIN A £50 dining experience voucher

SMOKE SHACK

smokeshack

SOME prizes are tastier than others – and this one is particularly a smoking hot one!

Smoke Shack is a new restaurant which opened in Stony Stratford at the end of August.

It combines popular meals such as burgers, hotdogs, ribs and wings plus slow-cooked meats from the smokers.

The food at Smoke Shack is being produced fresh by Michelin-star trained chefs, using the very best quality, locally-sourced produce.

To celebrate its success, Smoke Shack is giving away some great prizes to readers.

One lucky person will win a £50 voucher to spend when they bring along four people to the restaurant.

There will also be ten runner-up prizes of £20 vouchers for two people to dine.

To be in with a chance of winning answer the following:

Which MK town is the Smoke Shack restaurant located in?

A) Stony Stratford B) Woburn
C) Bletchley D) Wolverton

Send your answer, name, address and daytime telephone number to competitions@mk-news.co.uk, or MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, MK15 0DU by January 8. The editor's decision is final

biblicaldisaster

RIDLEY Scott directs this story of Moses, who takes on the might of the Egyptian empire to lead 600,000 slaves on an epic journey to freedom.

Does Exodus: Gods and Kings deserve all the stick it's had for all its historical inaccuracies? Probably not, after all it has enough to contend with thanks to smothering CGI and clunky writing.

Adapted from the famous Biblical tale the resulting inaccuracies border on absurdity and, at two and a half hours long, it's far from engaging.

Christian Bale makes a promising start as the adopted brother of Rameses and puts on a strong performance, particularly in a great scene with Hebrew elder Ben Kingsley.

But the talents of Sigourney Weaver, Aaron Paul and John Turturro are sadly wasted thanks to too many visual effects that leave the cast little room to breathe, let alone act.

The ten plagues are rushed through so quickly it'll make your head spin and rather than being the pivotal moments they should be, instead are hectic scatterings that fail to add any value. The whole affair simply fails to deliver.

★★☆☆☆

Rachael West

bumperline-up

ONCE Peter Pan and co have winged their way off into Neverland, Milton Keynes Theatre has a bumper 2015 in store, with non-stop entertainment from the brightest of stars.

Zany comedian Omid Djalili will bring his Iranalamadingdong joke fest to the theatre on Sunday, February 22.

Adding a touch of the surreal to proceedings will be Matthew Bourne's magical dance production of Edward Scissorhands, which will run from February 17-21.

Witty and incisive musings on the human condition will come courtesy of Jimmy Carr on March 3. Then, the day after, March 4, hit machine The Hollies will be in town with a selection of pop classics.

You will be green with envy if you miss out on tickets for Shrek The Musical, on tour after a fantastic West End run with performances from August 18 September 6.

Others to watch out for are Alan Carr on April 5 and ABBA mania on January 17.

Your essential guide to events big and small throughout Milton Keynes

MKlifeHOTPICKS

sallyingforth

SINGER-SONGWRITER Sally Barker is back, fresh from her performances on BBC One's The Voice, including a duet with her mentor Sir Tom Jones.

The former Poozies' lead singer, who supported Bob Dylan and Robert Plant, will perform songs from her album, Another Train, as well as YouTube favourites Dear Darlin' and Walk on By at The Stables on Sunday. Her show starts at 8pm and tickets are £15. To book call the box office on 01908 280800.

robbierevisited

THE Ultimate Robbie Tribute with Lee Michael is coming to Wilton Hall in Bletchley.

He has all the moves, manner and vocal talents of the prince of pop himself and the 90-minute show from 7pm on Friday, January 23 is set to entertain you.

To book your tickets, which are £25, call the box office on 01908 372277.

got an exciting event? **email editor@mk-news.co.uk** for the latest leisure news **www.mkweb.co.uk**

getweaving

LEARN how to make a hedgerow basket with The Parks Trust.

The first of three workshops will take place on Saturday from 10am to 3pm, when you will be collecting your natural materials in Howe Park Wood.

The other two workshops will be on March 14 and 15.

It costs £80 for all three workshops and is suitable for over 16s.

Places must be booked at www.theparkstrust.com for the first event at Howe Park Wood Education Centre.

posterpower

TAKE part in a Great War Banner Workshop at Westbury Arts Centre.

Learn how to make your own historical poster with Vinny Stapley on Saturday from 10.30am to 4pm. The event is free and all the posters will be used in a remembrance event in Campbell Park in June 2015. To book your place email admin@westburyartscentre.co.uk.

If you miss out a second workshop will be held on February 7.

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MKNEWS

PROPERTYNEWS

Wednesday, January 7, 2015

Kingsmead

THIS well-presented, five double bedroom, two en-suite, detached family home is available for sale in the popular residential area of Kingsmead.

The property benefits from, gas to radiator central heating, double glazing, double garage with off-road parking and gardens to the front and rear.

The accommodation briefly comprises entrance hall, downstairs cloakroom, lounge, study, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, first floor landing, master bedroom and guest bedroom, both with en-suite, three further bedrooms and a family bathroom.

For more information about the property, on the market for £550,000, contact Taylors Executive Homes on 01908 240981.

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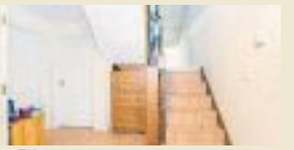
Kingsmead

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garden & Garage
- Off Road Parking

This excellent five bedroom detached property can be found on the edge of Milton Keynes in a quiet location overlooking countryside.

£560,000



Kingsmead

- Five Double Bedrooms
- Two En-suites
- Detached
- Double Garage
- Front & Rear Gardens

This well presented five double bedroom, two en-suite, detached family home is available of sale in the popular residential area of Kingsmead.

£550,000

Middleton

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Garden & Garage
- Viewing Highly Recommended

Five bedroom detached property comprising entrance hall, lounge, dining room, study, kitchen/breakfast, utility and downstairs cloakroom.

£525,000

Broughton

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Garage & Garden
- Off Road Parking

An exceptional five bedroom detached family home available for sale in this stunning location. Overlooking a brook at the front this excellent property.

£434,995

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Woughton On The Green

- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- Private Gardens
- Double Garage & Ample Parking

Modern detached three bedroom bungalow, refurbished to a very high standard and situated in a tucked away spot with private gardens. The property is accessed via an excellent reception area that has a high dome effect ceiling leading to a centralised orangery

£725,000

Downhead Park

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Garage

A unique designed property that has been improved and extended to a very high standard and offers versatile spacious family living within a short walking distance to the canal.

£550,000

Grange Farm

- Five Bedrooms detached property
- Lounge
- Utility
- Cloakroom
- Double Garage

A spacious five bedroom detached property located in the popular Hazeley School catchment area. The property comprises of entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen/ breakfast, utility and downstairs cloakroom.

£475,000

Westcroft

- Five Bedroom Property
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Family Bathroom

Taylors Estate agents are delighted to offer for sale this spacious detached residence with double glazing and gas to radiator heating. The property is Offered for sale with no chain.

£448,995

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TAYLORS Estate Agents

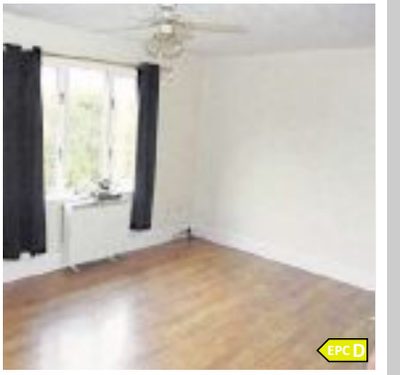
Sales & Lettings
Milton Keynes 01908 850959

Bradwell **OIEO £255,000**

- Three Bedroom Link Detached House
- Conservatory
- Garden & Garage
- Cul-de-Sac Location
- Re-fitted Kitchen & Bathroom

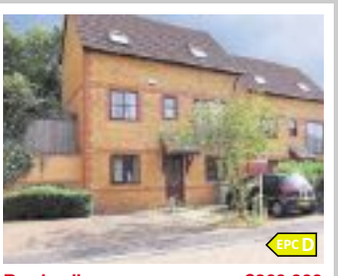
Milton Keynes **£120,000**

- First Floor Apartment
- One Bedroom
- Cul-de-Sac Location
- Parking
- No Chain



Great Holm **£350,000**

- Four Bedroom Detached House
- En-Suite & Bathroom
- Gardens & Double Garage
- Viewing Recommended



Bradwell **£260,000**

- Detached House
- Five Bedrooms
- Flexible Accommodation
- Gardens & Off Road Parking

Springfield **£250,000**

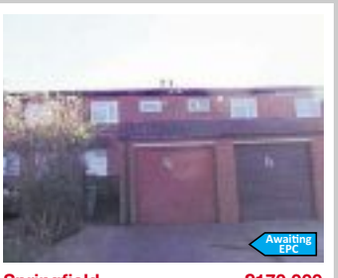
- Three Bedroom Detached House
- Three Reception Rooms
- Close to Town Centre
- Off Road Parking & Garage

Oldbrook **£220,000**

- Three Bedroom Detached House
- Kitchen & Dining Room
- Utility Area & Off Road Parking
- Front & Rear Gardens

Beanhill **£175,000**

- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Dining Room
- Off Road Parking



Springfield **£170,000**

- Terraced House
- Three Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking
- Garage

Stantonbury **£165,000**

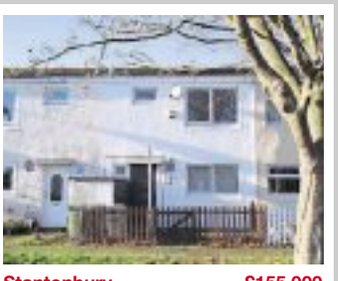
- Three Bedroom Terraced House
- Popular Location
- Conservatory & Cloakroom
- Private Rear Garden

Bradwell Common **£164,950**

- Four Bedroom House
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Gardens & Garage
- No Chain

Heelands **£169,995**

- Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Cul-de-Sac Location
- Gardens & Off Road Parking



Stantonbury **£155,000**

- Three Bedroom Mid Terraced Property
- Popular Location
- Private Rear Garden
- Resident Parking

Campbell Park **£132,000**

- One Bedroom Apartment
- Reception Room
- Communal Gardens
- Resident Parking

Netherfield **£60,000**

- One Bedroom Upper Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Living Accommodation
- No Chain
- Viewing Recommended

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TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Westcroft Milton Keynes 01908 850984

Milton Keynes **£56,000**

- First Floor Apartment
- One Bedroom
- Reception Room
- Bathroom
- Allocated Parking

Crownhill **£54,000**

- End Terraced Propety
- Two Bedrooms
- Reception Room
- Garden
- Off Road Parking

Shenley Brook End **£375,000**

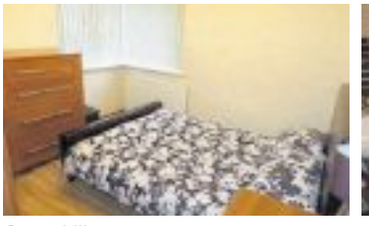
- Four Bedroom Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garden
- Double Garage

Grange Farm **£173,000**

- First Floor Luxury Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Reception Room
- Bathroom & En-Suite

Medbourne **£140,000**

- Upper Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge & Kitchen
- Allocated Parking



Crownhill **£185,000**

- Mid Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Reception Room
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Conservatory
- Two Bathrooms
- Off Road Parking

Melbourne **£70,000**

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Reception Room
- Bathroom
- Resident Parking

URGENTLY REQUIRED

WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR PROPERTIES IN THE EMERSON VALLEY AREA AS WE HAVE SEVERAL APPLICANTS THAT ARE QUALIFIED AND READY TO MOVE!

WANTED

THINKING OF MOVING IN THE NEW YEAR ?? WE ARE LOOKING FOR PROPERTIES AS DEMAND HAS RISEN. PLEASE CALL FOR YOUR FREE VALUATION AND TO GET SOLD WITH THE BIGGEST ESTATE AGENT TODAY!

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TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Kingston 01908 850954

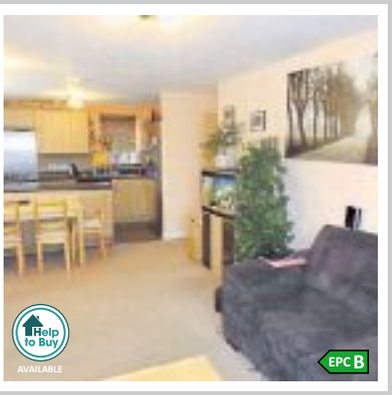
Wavendon Gate £350,000
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- No Chain

Broughton £350,000
- Four Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Utility Room
- Bathroom & Shower Room
- Garage, Garden & Parking

Caldecotte £330,000
- Three Bedroom Link Detached House
- Modern Kitchen with Underfloor Heating
- Conservatory
- En-Suite to Master Bedroom
- Garage & Off Road Parking

Kents Hill £270,000
- Three Bedroom Detached House
- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Conservatory
- Cul-de-Sac Location
- No Chain

Aspley Guise £215,000
- Two Bedroom End Terraced Cottage
- Off Road Parking
- Rear Courtyard Garden
- Popular Village Location
- No Chain



Broughton £175,000
- First Floor Apartment
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom & En-Suite
- Popular Location
- Close to Town Centre

Thinking of moving and live in MK7, MK10 or MK17?

Taylors Kingston can help call us on 01908 585552 to book your free market appraisal and find out how we will achieve the very best price for your home!

TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Stony Stratford 01908 850979

Weavers End **£490,000**

- Newly Built Detached Family Home
- Four Bedrooms
- Four Reception Rooms
- Stunning Countrywide Views
- Viewing is Highly Recommended

Two Mile Ash **£330,000**

- Detached Home
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Conservatory
- Mature Rear Garden

New instructions required in Stony Stratford and surrounding villages for waiting buyers. It's a good time to move. Please call Paul Berkeley on 01908 850979

Deanshanger **£225,000**

- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking
- Front & Rear Gardens
- No Chain

Silver Street **£199,000**

- Upper Floor Apartment
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Bathroom & En-Suite
- Garage & Off Road Parking

Vicarage Road **£185,000**

- Two Bedrooms
- Re-fitted Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Cul-de-Sac Location
- Off Road Parking

Pump Place **£175,000**

- Two Bedrooms
- First Floor Apartment
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Parking Space

Towcester Road **£170,000**

- Two Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Requires Some Updating
- Rear Garden
- No Chain

TAYLORS Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Bletchley 01908 850949

Bletchley **£225,000**

- Three Bedroom Detached Home
- Potential to Extend
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Single Garage

Bletchley **£210,000**

- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Study
- Kitchen/Diner
- Off Road Parking

Bletchley **£190,000**

- Three Bedrooms
- Duplex Maisonette
- Lounge/Diner/Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Two Allocated Parking Spaces

Bletchley **£185,000**

- Four Bedrooms
- End of Terrace Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Large Kitchen/Diner
- Rear Garden

Bletchley **£179,950**

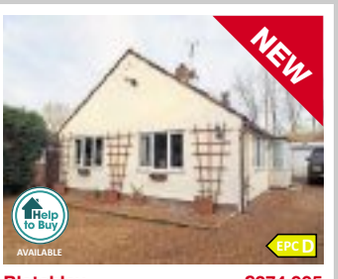
- Three Bedrooms
- Mid Terraced Property
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Front & Rear Gardens

Milton Keynes **£155,000**

- Two Bedrooms
- Upper Floor Apartment
- No Upper Chain
- Open Plan Kitchen
- Bathroom

Greenway **£314,995**

- Four Bedrooms
- Rear Garden
- Countryside Views
- Close to Local Amenities



Bletchley **£274,995**

- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- En-Suite
- Loft

Bletchley **£260,000**

- Four Bedrooms
- Detached Home
- Lounge
- Kitchen

Bletchley **£189,995**

- Semi Detached Home
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking & Garden

TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Newport Pagnell 01908 850979

Milton Keynes **£340,000**

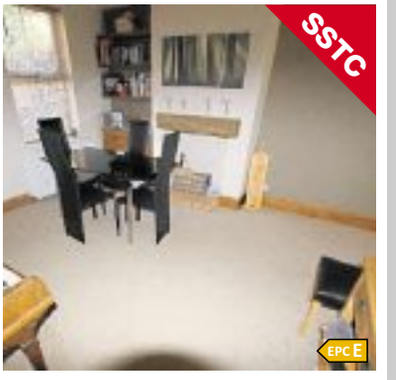
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Cul-de-Sac Location

Newport Pagnell **£300,000**

- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner, Kitchen & Conservatory
- Cloakroom, En-Suite & Bathroom
- Integral Garage

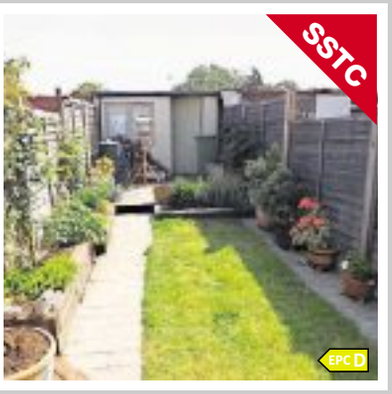
North Crawley **£280,000**

- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Kitchen/Diner
- Large Plot
- No Chain



Newport Pagnell **£235,000**

- End Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Sought After Location
- Off Road Parking
- Planing for Two Storey Extension



Newport Pagnell **£225,000**

- Mid Terraced Property
- Excellent Condition
- Five Piece Family Bathroom
- Loft Room/Bedroom Three
- Close to Town Centre

Hornbeam **£199,999**

- Mid Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Kitchen/Diner
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage & Off Road Parking

WANTED

All of these are now SSTC and we need more properties

If you are looking at selling, call Taylors on 01908 850979

Wilson Peacock estate agents

Sales & Lettings
Milton Keynes: 01908 850994

Bletchley £500,000

17th century Grade II Listed thatched cottage set on a plot of approximately 0.72 acres. Retaining many original features, it comprises three bedrooms, three reception rooms and a detached twin garage.

Neath Hill OIEO £395,000

Spacious four bedroom detached executive home situated on Tower Drive in Neath Hill offering good access to Central Milton Keynes. The accommodation comprises three reception rooms, 28ft conservatory and en-suite to master bedroom. Viewing is highly recommended.

Conniburrow OIEO £260,000

Situated within the cul-de-sac location of Germander Place is this large four bedroom detached family property. With a large wrap around garden, this home comprises lounge, dining/sitting room, kitchen, WC, four bedrooms, family bathroom, off road parking, single garage and private rear garden.

Oldbrook £204,995

Located within close proximity to Central Milton Keynes, this property offers accommodation set over three floors and comprises lounge, kitchen/ diner, three bedrooms and family bathroom.

Stantonbury £235,000

Extended detached family property. Comprises three bedrooms, kitchen and utility room, lounge, dining room, cloakroom, computer room, bathroom, driveway and front and rear gardens.

Furzton £220,000

Mid terraced property close to the Lakes and situated in the popular location of Furzton. Comprises three double bedrooms, lounge, kitchen/ diner, driveway and private rear garden.

Fishermead £195,000

Sold STC for full asking price with more buyers looking for similar properties, can you help? Four bedroom end terraced townhouse benefitting from gas central heating and double glazing.

Stantonbury £165,000

Well presented three bedroom terraced property in the popular city centre location of Stantonbury. Comprises lounge, kitchen, conservatory, cloakroom, family bathroom, gardens and driveway.

Stacey Bushes £159,995

Spacious end terraced property which has been refurbished throughout. Comprises three bedrooms, lounge, dining room, conservatory, cloakroom, family bathroom and allocated carport for two cars.

Beanhill £155,000

Three bedroom terraced property benefitting from ample off road parking. Comprises lounge, kitchen, bathroom, cloakroom and rear garden. Ideal investment or first time buy.

Milton Keynes £135,000

Two bedroom ground floor apartment located in Central Milton Keynes. Comprises communal entrance, entrance hall, lounge/diner, two bedrooms, kitchen and bathroom.

Conniburrow £125,000

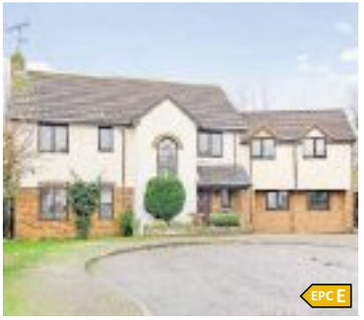
Well presented one bedroom bungalow situated in the popular city centre. The property in brief comprises entrance hall, bathroom, lounge, fitted kitchen and communal garden.

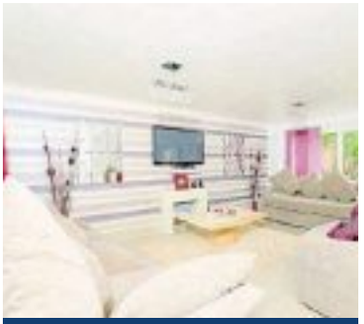
WANTED

Wilson Peacock urgently require property in Westcroft. Call us now on 01908 850994 for a free valuation.

Wilson Peacock estate agents

Sales & Lettings
Newport Pagnell: 01908 850999





Newport Pagnell £599,995

Detached three bedroom family home situated on The Spinney in Bradwell. Situated in a cul-de-sac location the property offers off road parking leading to single garage.

Newport Pagnell £450,000

Wilson Peacock are delighted to offer for sale this fantastic four bedroom detached bungalow situated in the sought after location of Newport Pagnell.

Neath Hill £395,000

A recently refurbished four bedroom family home situated in the sought after area of 'Tower Drive Neath Hill'. Benefits include garage, driveway and front and rear gardens.

Neath Hill £360,000

Wilson Peacock are delighted to offer for sale a fantastic extended four bedroom family home, situated close central Milton Keynes, benefiting from gas to radiator heating and double glazing.

Newport Pagnell £289,995

Wilson Peacock are delighted to bring you this four bedroom detached family home situated in the sought after Rivers location of Newport Pagnell. The property has been extended and improved.

Milton Keynes £250,000

Wilson Peacock are delighted to offer this four bedroom family home situated in the popular area of Giffard Park and within close proximity to the Grand Union Canal and Tongwell lake.

Newport Pagnell £249,995

Wilson Peacock are delighted to offer this three bedroom semi detached property situated in the sought after location of the Poets Newport Pagnell.

Newport Pagnell £230,000

This three bedroom family home has been refurbished by the current owners, it has a very generous garden and good sized living space.

Great Linford £210,000

The property in brief comprises to the ground floor cloakroom, dining room, kitchen, lounge and bedroom one. To the first floor is the first floor landing, bedrooms two and three and bathroom.

Newport Pagnell £185,995

Wilson Peacock exclusively bring you this two bedroom semi detached home situated in the popular area of 'Green Park' Newport Pagnell. The property is within close proximity to local amenities.

Newport Pagnell £170,000

Wilson Peacock are proud to present this two bedroom property situated in the Historical Market town of Newport Pagnell.

NEW YEAR NEW START!! WE WILL EXPOSE YOUR HOME TO THE WIDEST POSSIBLE AUDIENCE! CALL WILSON PEACOCK ON 01908 611388 FOR YOUR FREE VALUATION!

Opening hours

Monday - Friday
9am to 5.30pm
Saturdays/Sundays
By appointment only

Contact us

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www.lanesmk.co.uk

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Start your search

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Milton Keynes Service Partnership

Business Support Assistant - Democratic Services

£15,000 - £18,000 **Ref: 50019247: permanent**
Ref: 59001658: fixed term

We need you to provide high quality administrative assistance to the team that manage elections, provides advice to elected members and supports committee meetings. Your proven IT and customer care skills will be matched by the ability to work under pressure to tight deadlines. NVQ2 in business administration or equivalent will be vital.

For informal enquiries please contact V Walden on 01908 254589.

Senior Accountant

£25,000 - £30,000 **Ref: 50019494**

Play your part in the future well-being and prosperity of Milton Keynes as you work as part of a team to deliver a range of finance services to our clients. Your remit will include supporting clients with budget monitoring, budget preparation and year-end accounting as well as the completion of grant claims.

You'll come to us with accounting experience in a finance environment together with the full AAT qualification or equivalent. Specialist knowledge of Excel and SAP will also be essential. Bring enthusiasm, energy, and bright ideas, and we'll give you the opportunity to develop and progress them.

For informal enquiries please contact Penni Powers on 01908 253929.

Assistant Accountant

£18,000 - £23,000 **Ref: 50019901**

This is an excellent opportunity to develop your skills as part of a reorganised and revitalised team. You will assist in the provision of a range of financial services including budget monitoring challenge, budget preparation, year-end accounting, completion of grant claims and statistical returns.

A part-qualified accounting technician or equivalent, you will have experience of using SAP and Excel in a finance environment. Organised, conscientious and willing to embrace change, you will be keen to train and develop in a vibrant environment with plenty of opportunities for progression.

For informal enquiries please contact Penni Powers on 01908 253929.

Deputy Finance Manager

£45,000 - £55,000 **Ref: 50016495**

We'll look to you to lead a finance team while providing expert accounting and finance advice to the Council. It's a high profile opportunity to help us build a best in class finance function. Alongside devising and implementing service improvements, you will take a lead accounting and technical role.

You'll come to us with a good grasp of the issues facing local government, experience in a complex environment and a CCAB qualification or equivalent. Able to advise on major projects and procurement, you will have a flair for influencing others to exceed their objectives.

If you have the local authority accounting experience we seek, you can expect plenty of opportunities for development and progression.

For informal enquiries please contact Penni Powers on 01908 253929.

Principal Accountant

£30,000 - £36,000 **Ref: 59000537**

We need you to give advice on high profile projects, provide training on best practice, and deliver leading-edge financial and commercial management services. It's an excellent opportunity to help us build a best in class function servicing the needs of the people that live, work in or visit Milton Keynes.

Focused on continuously improving processes, you will be a part-qualified accountant with experience in a local authority or equivalent complex organisation. Your excellent understanding of the issues currently facing local government will make you stand out from the crowd.

Be in at the beginning of our reorganised finance function, and you'll see plenty of opportunities for development and progression.

For informal enquiries please contact Penni Powers on 01908 253929.

Closing date for all posts: 25th January 2015

To apply online visit www.mksp.org.uk

Please quote appropriate reference.

Partnership No: OC380848
Registered address: Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes MK9 3EJ

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Driving Opportunities in Dunstable

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Part of the successful Mediaforce Group, Mortimers Logistics is an established transport company based in Dunstable, Bedfordshire. Due to continued expansion we currently have full time and casual Driver opportunities.

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Newly qualified Drivers will be considered and there will be lots of opportunities to work extra hours.

For an application form or to submit your CV please email Steve Adams: sadams@mortimers.co.uk

THE SUNDAY TIMES TOP TRACK 250 2013 Grant Thornton

At Milton Keynes, we're supporting the growth of our vibrant city while continuing to deliver excellent services. It's an exciting place to be and we're keen to get the balance right - including the work-life balance. So if you're looking for family-friendly benefits and the chance to make a difference, make a move to MKC.

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

Play Ranger

£22,443 - £26,539 pro rata
30 hours per week **Ref: 50016581**

Join a small team delivering open play access opportunities across Milton Keynes, and you will develop new aspects of the play ranger service. Qualified to Level 3 in play, youth or sports development, you will have experience of working with children and young people and in partnership with the voluntary sector.

This post is subject to safer recruitment practices.

Interview date: 6th February 2015.

Practitioner – Building Control

£32,072 - £35,784 **Ref: 50018640**

We need you to play your part in ensuring that builders and developers comply with Building Regulations. It's a varied role including undertaking site inspections and taking enforcement action. Your full membership of ABE, RICS or CIOB will be matched by the ability to handle the public and professionals in challenging situations.

For informal enquiries please contact Derek Hatt on 01908 252202.

Swimming Teacher

£17,802 pro rata (£13.60 - £15.33 hour, includes £4.38 market supplement) Woughton Leisure Centre **Ref: 50018587**

Available to work weekdays or Saturdays, you will plan and deliver high quality swimming lessons in line with the Amateur Swimming Association National Plan for Teaching Swimming. Your flair for inspiring young people to swim will be matched by the ASA/STA or UKCC Level 1 or 2 certificate in aquatic teaching or equivalent.

This post is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact Samantha Savage on 01908 660392.

It's ability, not disability that counts

Assistant Nursery Leader

£22,443 - £26,539 pro rata - 18.5 hours per week **Ref: 50012272**
Based at Playzone Day Nursery, part of Hedgerows Children's Centre

Working Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday am, you will support the Nursery Leader with the safe and efficient running of the nursery within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework. With NVQ3 or above in childcare or equivalent, you will have practical experience in an early years environment including working within the EYFS curriculum.

This post is subject to safer recruitment practices

For informal enquiries please contact Denise Phillips Nursery Leader on 01908 394996.

Senior Enforcement Officer – Building Control

£27,323 - £31,160 **Ref: 50018646**

Join the Building Control team, and you will check plans and undertake site inspections relating to the requirements of the Building Regulations for a challenging range of building types. Organised, flexible and enthusiastic with good communication skills, you will bring significant experience of building control plus a broad understanding of relevant legislation.

For informal enquiries please contact Derek Hatt on 01908 252202.

Closing date: 25th January 2015

Salaries will normally start at the first point of the grade.

For an application form, email: jobs@milton-keynes.gov.uk
Please quote appropriate reference. We are unable to accept CVs, unless accompanied by a completed application form.

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Business Developers

Luton on Sunday, Bedfordshire on Sunday, MK News & Northampton Herald & Post

LSN Media provides news and multimedia solutions across our extensive portfolio, including Bedfordshire on Sunday, MK News, Northants Herald & Post and Luton on Sunday.

Do you thrive on being where the action is?
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If you feel you are suited to this position and are interested in applying, then please request an application form by emailing louisa.kugeniek@localworld.co.uk

We encourage applications from all walks of life and all applications will be considered on merit. It is the company's policy to employ the best qualified personnel and provide opportunity for the advancement of employees including promotion and training and not discriminate against any person because of sex, race, pregnancy, disability, marital or family status, ages, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or trade union membership.

onsunday MKNEWS onsunday Herald &Post

As a division of Local World we also publish weekly newspapers and websites across Herts, Beds, Bucks, Cambs, Northants, Staffs and Essex.

LOCAL WORLD

Milton Keynes Education Trust (MKET) was established in 2011 with the aim of creating a mutually beneficial partnership between local schools. The Trust's aims are based on our commitment to securing social justice through high quality education that promotes inclusion and embraces diversity.

MKET aims to enhance and enrich the lives of children and young people by enabling them to make the most of outstanding learning opportunities within and beyond the curriculum; instilling an appreciation that there are no limits to what they can achieve and developing the attributes needed to successfully shape and respond to the future.

THE TRUST IS MADE UP OF A NUMBER OF SCHOOLS, SOME OF WHICH ARE CURRENTLY RECRUITING

NEW CHAPTER PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.newchapterprimary.org.uk

At New Chapter Primary School, we pride ourselves in providing a caring and happy atmosphere where each child feels valued. We aim to provide not only the right academic atmosphere, but also an education that fosters the intellectual, social, physical and emotional development of each child, which equips them with the skills for lifelong learning and personal growth.

MILTON KEYNES PRIMARY AP FREE SCHOOL

www.mket.org.uk

MKET is opening a Free School which will provide an outstanding education for primary school children who are at risk of not fulfilling their potential within a mainstream environment.

The school will be true alternative provision based on the Forest School model whilst still maintaining high standards of education through personalised learning programmes that focus on developing a child's literacy and numeracy skills.

WALTON HIGH

www.waltonhigh.org.uk & www.brooklandsmk.org.uk

The most recent national data for KS2-4 value added performance in students' "Best 8" GCSEs places Walton High in the top 10% of schools nationally. Our thriving Post-16 provision is also highly successful, with most students going on to the top universities or prestigious apprenticeships.

Our students are able to achieve such heights as a result of the dedicated work of our team of extremely talented teachers and support staff.

Walton High is building capacity to guarantee both the successful introduction of the revised GCSEs and A levels and opening of its second site in the Brooklands area of Milton Keynes in September 2016.

OPPORTUNITES FOR TEACHERS

As a growing local education Trust, opportunities for professional development and career progression are excellent.
MKET's pay policy allows for outstanding teachers to make accelerated progress through the Trust's pay scale.

NEW CHAPTER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Key Stage 1 Leader
MKET Main Pay Range/Upper Pay Range plus TLR2
Required for April/September 2015

We are looking to appoint an experienced practitioner to raise the quality of teaching in Key Stage 1. The KS1 Leader will play a key part in raising standards across the key stage, through modelling their own excellent teaching and by supporting the professional development of colleagues.

Key Stage 1 teacher
MKET Main Pay Range/Upper Pay Range
Required for February/April 2015

We are looking for an inspiring and highly motivated classroom practitioner with a proven record of good to outstanding teaching.

For further details visit www.newchapterprimary.org.uk/recruitment

MILTON KEYNES PRIMARY AP FREE SCHOOL

Principal Designate - £50,118 - £58,095

This is an exciting opportunity to set up a new school that will be based on the Forest School concept whilst still maintaining high standards of education through personalised learning programmes.

We are seeking an exceptional Principal who has the vision, experience, creativity and determination to provide children with an outstanding school where they can engage, enjoy and achieve. The successful candidate will take up post in September 2015 and will work alongside a highly supportive Governing Body to ensure the successful opening of the school in 2016.

For further details visit www.mket.org.uk

WALTON HIGH

Subject Leaders:

MKET Main/Upper pay range plus TLR 2

- Subject Leader for Key Stage 5 English
- Subject Leader for Chemistry

Teachers: MKET Main/Upper pay range

- English
- Maths
- Geography
- History
- Computing
- Science (Physics / Chemistry / Biology)

Trainee Teachers

For further details visit www.waltonhigh.org.uk/recruitment

OPPORTUNITES FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND EDUCATION SUPPORT STAFF

NEW CHAPTER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pupil Inclusion & Wellbeing Pastoral Leader
£18,127 - £22,137 pro rata Required: February 2015 term time only

We are looking for a person dedicated to the welfare and achievement of every child with a secure knowledge of child development and the ability to inspire, challenge and motivate all children.

For further details visit www.newchapterprimary.org.uk/recruitment

WALTON HIGH

Office Manager £25,141 - £29,823
An experienced and highly effective administrator is sought to manage the administrative team to ensure high quality support is provided and systems run smoothly.

Behaviour Support Assistant term time only, £13,665- £16,036
This role involves providing high quality pastoral and learning support to students in Key Stage 3 and 4. This includes working with students to improve behaviour and social skills either in class or individually as well as supervising students who have been withdrawn from lessons.

Exam scribes
casual £7.50 per hour

Exam invigilators
casual £6.50 per hour

For further details of these posts, please visit www.waltonhigh.co.uk/recruitment

OPPORTUNITES FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF

MKET is reorganising and expanding its technical support team to meet the needs of its partnership of schools.
As a result these exciting new posts, which will be based at Walton High, have been created:

Technical Services Manager
£37,954 - £43,646

System Administrator (application services)
System Administrator (client and network services)
Information and Data Manager

The salary for these three posts is £21,278 – £29,823
(dependent upon qualifications and experience)

For further details of these posts and how to apply, please visit www.mket.org.uk/join-us/careers/support-staff

Closing date for all these opportunities: 12 midday on Wednesday 21 January 2015

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects everyone involved with the school to share this commitment. Successful applicants will be required to obtain an enhanced DBS check.

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www.luton.gov.uk/jobs

Shared Care Plus Carers

£537.13 per week (pro-rata for part time) plus allowances and mileage
Self-employed basis

Vacancy ID: 102264

The Shared Care service provides support to children and young people who have additional needs and may present with physical disabilities, complex medical conditions, challenging behaviour or are on the Autistic spectrum.

We are looking for people who can provide short breaks to children and young people in their own home to give both family and child the chance to have a break. This can be anything from a few hours to a few nights a week on a full time or part time basis.

It is essential that you have experience of caring for children in an education, health or care setting, and a relevant qualification is desirable. You will provide day to day physical, emotional and social care for children and young people, ensuring their needs are paramount at all times.

Applicants will need to demonstrate that they are able to meet the criteria for a Fostering assessment. Use of a car and valid driving licence is essential. Further training will be provided.

For an informal discussion on this opportunity please call Sarah, Rachel or Theresa on 01582 459738 or email sharedcare@luton.gov.uk

Apply now online at www.luton.gov.uk/jobs if you experience problems applying online, please call (01582) 546621 during office hours.

Please quote appropriate reference number.

Applicants must be willing to undergo child/vulnerable adult protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with previous employers and a Criminal Record check.

We value equality because quality services need the best people - from the whole community.

Stonewall DIVERSITY CHAMPION

LUTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

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CHALLNEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
Addington Way, Luton LU4 9FJ

Teacher of English

MPR / UPR
MPR / UPR plus TLR2a

Vacancy ID: 102284

Challney High School for Girls is a successful and inclusive school with outstanding facilities, friendly staff and a highly supportive environment.

We wish to appoint an enthusiastic, forward thinking teacher who is able to encourage and inspire our pupils.

English is obviously of prime importance to the girls as a specific subject but also, with Literature, is central to the girls' success in all subjects. We are both over-subscribed and growing in numbers.

Applications from experienced and Newly Qualified teachers are warmly welcomed.

Mentoring support will be provided.

There is also an opportunity for a suitable candidate to take on an Assistant Department Leader responsibility (TLR 2a) within the English Department.

If you would like to arrange a visit to the school please ring to make an appointment.

Application forms and further details can be downloaded from our website www.challneygirls.luton.sch.uk. Electronic applications should be returned to ssmith@challneygirls.luton.sch.uk or you can post your application form and letter to Mrs S Smith at the above address.

Closing date: 14 January 2015

CVs will not be accepted for any posts based in schools.

Schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff to share this commitment.

Applicants must be willing to undergo child/vulnerable adult protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with previous employers and a Criminal Record check.

We value equality because quality services need the best people - from the whole community.

LUTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Accounting Assistant

Finance Division
£25,513 - £30,434; Ref: 10929
Based in Milton Keynes

The Open University

The Open University is one of the UK's most respected national institutions and the market leader in distance higher education. Since it opened to students in 1971, it has been inspiring learning and creating higher educational opportunities to all who wish to realise their ambitions and fulfil their potential, whatever their previous academic attainments.

The position of Accounting Assistant is part of a team providing financial support to various University Units. You will work closely with a number of Unit Accountants and Budget Holders providing support to several units. You will assist in the provision of accurate and timely financial information, advice on financial plans and business appraisals for new activity. You will also contribute to the general financial work of the office.

You will have the relevant finance related work experience, including costing and budget monitoring. In addition you will have excellent communication and organisational skills. You will also have a high level of IT skills and be competent in creating and using complex Excel spreadsheets. You will be required to work with minimal supervision; the ability to manage a varied work load and work to deadlines is essential. You will be at least on the intermediate level of AAT (or equivalent).

For detailed information and how to apply go to www3.open.ac.uk/employment, or email the Recruitment Co-ordinator Finance-Recruitment@open.ac.uk quoting the reference number.
Closing date: 4pm 22 January 2015. Interview date: W/C 2 February 2015.

We promote diversity in employment and welcome applications from all sections of the community

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THORNTON SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
CONVENT OF JESUS AND MARY

Thornton College School for Girls is the most successful non-selective school in the area. Situated in beautiful grounds, between Milton Keynes and Buckingham, the School and Nursery offer the perfect environment to learn and grow. The School attracts day pupils from a 30 mile radius and boarders from all over the world.

We are seeking to appoint for the following positions:

NURSERY NURSE
£14,151 – £18,158 · FULL TIME, 37 ½ HOURS, YEAR ROUND

We are looking for a Nursery Nurse qualified to NVQ level 3 or equivalent to join our enthusiastic, dedicated team of nursery staff. The Nursery is housed in purpose built accommodation, is exceptionally well resourced and has a reputation for offering a first class nursery education. The Nursery is open year-round from 8am to 6pm.

SECRETARY
£15,340 – £20,013 · FULL TIME, 9AM – 5.30PM, YEAR ROUND

Do you have the skills and qualities necessary to join our vibrant and friendly administration team? Applications are sought from candidates with excellent people skills, exceptional IT skills and a first-rate working knowledge of MS Office.

Closing date for applications for all positions: Noon on Friday 23rd January

Successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and appointments made only following satisfactory references. For further information about the positions and to download an application form, please visit the employment pages under General Information on our website www.thorntoncollege.com

THORNTON COLLEGE, THORNTON, MILTON KEYNES, MK17 0HJ
TEL. 01280 812610 · WWW.THORNTONCOLLEGE.COM

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Jobs Post a vacancy online only £199
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Night Transport Supervisor

mortimers

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Dunstable, Beds.

Part of the Mediaforce Group, Mortimers Logistics is an established transport business with a large fleet of HGVs and other vehicles. We are a market leader in the bulk distribution of newspapers and leaflets throughout the UK. Due to continued business growth we are now seeking a Night Transport Supervisor to join the team based at our busy depot in Dunstable.

We are seeking someone with experience of working in a busy transport department. Flexible, with a can do attitude, you will be capable of thinking on your feet and demonstrate the ability to resolve issues effectively, both proactively and reactively.

As a key figure within the leadership team, your responsibilities will include tracking all night vehicles and drivers, while keeping control of the transport plan as necessary, and dealing with any issues. You will keep up to date with driver data, infringement analysis, and keep check on other compliance such as driver and vehicle records. You will also conduct vehicle inspections before and after routes, and provide clear pre-brief and de-brief communication to drivers.

You will have the commitment to cover any vehicle routes if necessary and support and keep check on our warehouse, if required.

This role is working nights during the week and would be flexible as the needs of the business dictate. Applicants must have a LGV licence and FLT experience would be beneficial.

To apply, please send your CV to Bill Smith at bsmith@mortimers.co.uk stating your current salary.

THE SUNDAY TIMES TOP TRACK 250 2013 Grant Thornton

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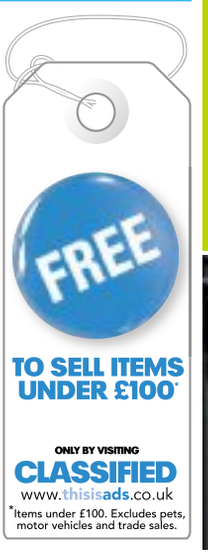

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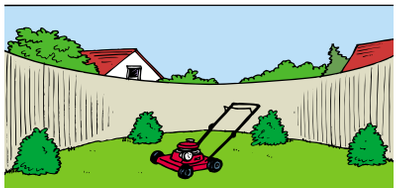

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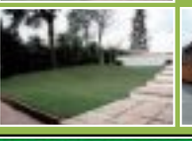

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THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (ELDER GATE (PART), CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 6th January 2015 an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit vehicles from entering, waiting or proceeding along that part of Elder Gate, Central Milton Keynes from its junction with Avebury Boulevard to its junction with the access road leading to H6 Childs Way in order to allow works to be carried out to the existing roundabout and carriageway. It is anticipated that the temporary closure will be in effect on Monday 12th January 2015, between the hours of 7:30am and 6:00pm.

Whilst the above length of road is closed, the alternative route will be via Avebury Boulevard, Grafton Gate and Childs Way (H6).

The following access will be permitted at all times throughout the closure:-

- for emergency services vehicles and military vehicles being driven on operational duties;
- in connection with the works;
- in connection with any building operation or the laying, erection, alteration or repair in or adjacent to the length of road referred to of any sewer or of any main pipe or apparatus for the supply of gas water or electricity or of any telegraphic line as defined in the Telecommunications Act 1984;
- in connection with the service of a local authority, water authority or other statutory authority in pursuance of statutory powers or duties of an emergency nature;

The closure will be clearly signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

The temporary closure will be in force on the date shown when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs displayed in the affected part of road.

The Order will come into operation on 12th January 2014 and will continue in force for a maximum period of 1 month or until the said works have been completed, whichever is the sooner. If the works are not completed within the maximum period stated, a further order may be made.

Any person committing a breach of the order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The road closure and alternative route can be viewed at www.roadworks.org.

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (FENNY STRATFORD LEVEL CROSSING AND PARTS OF SIMPSON ROAD) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 06 January 2015 made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, because works are to be carried out, namely the annual inspection and maintenance of Fenny Stratford level crossing. The effect of the Order will be to temporarily prohibit vehicles from entering, waiting or proceeding along Simpson Road, Fenny Stratford for a distance of 20 metres either side of the Fenny Stratford level crossing, together with the level crossing itself. It is anticipated that the temporary closure will be in effect from 23:00 pm on Saturday 10 January 2015 until 12:00 pm on Sunday 11th January 2015.

Whilst the temporary closure is in effect the alternative route will be via Simpson Road, Stable hall Road, Bilton Road, Watling Street and Simpson Road, and vice versa.

There will be no exemptions from the provisions of the Order except for emergency services vehicles, military vehicles being driven on operational duties and any vehicle connected to the associated works.

The closure and its alternative route will be clearly signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

The temporary restrictions will be in force on the date shown when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs displayed in the affected part of road.

The Order will come into operation on 10th January 2015 and will continue in force for a maximum period of 3 months or until the said works have been completed, whichever is the sooner. If the works are not completed within the maximum period stated, a further order may be made.

Any person committing a breach of the order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The length of road to be closed and the alternative routes can be viewed at www.roadworks.org.

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (QUEENSWAY (PART), BLETCHLEY) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends, in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, because works are to be carried out, namely the relocation of a bandstand and cast iron plant pots from Elizabeth Square to Stanier Square in Queensway. The effect of the Order will be to temporarily prohibit vehicles from entering, waiting or proceeding along Queensway, Bletchley from its junction with Albert Street to its junction with Cambridge Street. It is anticipated that the temporary closure will be in effect from 07:30 am on Sunday 18th January 2015 until 19:30 pm on Sunday 18th January 2015.

Whilst the temporary closure is in effect the alternative route will be via Albert Street, Princes Way, Lennox Road, Findlay Way and Westfield Road or Brooklands Road, and vice versa.

The one-way traffic restriction in Oxford Street and Bedford Street will be temporarily suspended to allow two-way traffic whilst the Queensway closure is in operation.

There will be no exemptions from the provisions of the proposed Order except for emergency services vehicles, military vehicles being driven on operational duties and any vehicle connected to the associated works.

The closure and its alternative route will be clearly signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

The temporary restrictions will be in force on the date shown when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs displayed in the affected part of road.

The proposed Order will come into operation at 7:30 am on 18th January 2015 and will continue in force for a maximum period of 3 months or until the said works have been completed, whichever is the sooner. If the works are not completed within the maximum period stated, a further order may be made.

Any person committing a breach of the order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The proposed road closure and alternative routes can be viewed at www.roadworks.org.

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Information correct at time of going to print. Guarantees and Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status. Written details available on request. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding Isle of Man and Channel Islands) to apply. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Limited, PO Box 149, Watford WD17 1FJ. *Contract hire, Micra Visia example: £1818.37 initial payment followed by 36 monthly rentals of £69. Excludes maintenance and based on 5000 miles per annum, Excess mileage charges apply. Model shots shown are for illustration purposes only. Models subject to availability. MPG figures are obtained from laboratory testing, in accordance with 2004/3/EC and intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect real driving results (Optional equipment, maintenance, driving behaviour, road and weather conditions may affect the official results). Calls may be monitored to ensure quality of service.

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Midfielder Reeves hopes to put hamstring injury behind him

DONS midfielder Ben Reeves is hoping to put his injury woes behind him and get an extended run back in the team after he returned to match action against Chesterfield in the second round of the FA Cup on Friday night.

Reeves has struggled with a hamstring problem all season, and last term's player of the season wants to resume some of his match fitness to get back to the same level he was operating at in 2013-14.

Dean Bowditch has had to fill in for Reeves in the last few games, and the former Southampton man is desperate to get back to his best.

"I've had this hamstring injury a few times this season – I think five or six times," said Reeves.

"It's something I've just got to get right so we had to take a little bit longer this time to come back.

"The main thing now is that I need to get some training sessions in and try get my sharpness back because this season I haven't trained as much as I would like because of these little injuries and niggles."

He came on at half time in the 1-0 defeat to Chesterfield, and it rankles him that the Spireites have twice beaten Dons in the FA Cup second round.

"It's massively disappointing to go out of the FA Cup and that's twice now that they've beaten us.

"It's a shame and there are no excuses now – everything is on the league.

"We need to work on it and get it right for Saturday against Crawley."

Comeback kid: Ben Reeves, in action here against Chesterfield in the FA Cup second round 1-0 defeat last Friday night, wants to get back to his best

Reeves was asked to play in a deeper role on Friday night, playing alongside Darren Potter at the base of the midfield when he came on, and the former Southampton man has no problem playing in that more defensive position.

"I've played there a few times and I don't mind.

"Wherever the manager wants you to play, you play there whether that's the manager wanting you to create chances or defensively, do your job there.

"Hopefully I can work my way back in the team and hopefully we can bounce back from this on Saturday."

Dons resume league action on Saturday with a trip to Crawley Town, who are currently 21st in the table, occupying the final relegation spot. They are two points off safety.

MK Dons goalkeeping coach PAUL HEALD writes exclusively for MK News

CHARLIE Burns has been playing for Truro City and they won 11 out of the 12 games he had been playing in.

He kept about eight clean sheets and they're highly delighted with him, so it's fantastic that he's done so well and that he's acquitted himself in such a manner.

It's good for us to know that he's developing as a person and a player.

We've got Ian McLoughlin as well, who's chomping at the bit and he wants to play some games, so we're monitoring that situation, and if there's a suitable club for Ian then Charlie will probably come back and be a member of the squad while Ian is out there getting vital first-team match experience.

It's a balancing act and it's vital for them to get that match experience.

It's always disappointing when you lose as we have our last two.

Winning is a habit and losing can be as well.

Walsall was disappointing for us but they're not a bad side and they've proven that they like to play football as well. They played very well and we've got to look at ourselves and see how we cope with that.

The cup game was disappointing but if someone said to us whether we'd rather win the FA Cup at the detriment of getting promoted then we'd say no way.

If we get promoted then I don't think it really matters about the cup and I'd rather get points on the board.

Any team is going to be difficult to play at the moment, especially with the way pitches are.

We've gone there and done well in the past and we beat them on Boxing Day last year, so we've shown that we're versatile and can play on any type of surface.

Young striker signs on the dotted line for Dons

A RETURN of 38 goals for the Under 18s so far this season has earned Kabongo Tshimanga a professional contract at MK Dons, which he signed pitchside before the 1-0 defeat to Chesterfield on Friday night in the second round of the FA Cup.

The teenager has been in remarkable form for the Under 18s this season, and he has been rewarded for his goal-scoring exploits with a one and a half year contract with an option of a further 12 months.

"The kid's been magnificent," said Dons manager Karl Robinson.

"We're really proud of him and to break the club scoring record at Under 18s is remarkable before we even got to Christmas!

"Mike Dove and his staff have done a great job with the kid and we're made up to offer him a contract.

"Hopefully we can mature his talent and maybe he'll go out on loan to play at senior level."

Tshimanga has followed a different path to his professional contract, and has only made one appearance so far in the senior squad, which was in the FA Cup first round at Port Vale.

Positive signs: Kabongo Tshimanga with his family and manager Karl Robinson

Robinson feels that Tshimanga has some developing still to go through, and he is thinking about sending the striker out on loan to see if that can help with his development.

But whatever path lies ahead for the striker, Robinson believes that Dons have yet another top player on their books.

"Kabongo hasn't had a great deal to do with the first team in the same way that Sam Baldock did, Daniel Powell and Adam Chicksen had because they were in the first team quite often.

"We didn't feel it was quite right for Kabongo to make that step just yet.

"He's a rough diamond and we hope we can polish that off and we can have a top player on our hands."

Since he signed his new contract, Tshimanga added another couple of goals to his tally in the U18s 3-3 draw with AFC Wimbledon on Saturday morning, meaning that he has now scored 38 goals this season.

As well as his Port Vale appearance, Tshimanga was an unused sub in the original FA Cup second round tie against Chesterfield last month.

But despite his exploits, Tshimanga feels he could have scored even more goals this season.

He told mkdons.com: "It's been really good scoring 38 goals but I feel like I could have had even more.

"Still, I'm quite pleased with that total number of goals, especially as we're only at the start of January."

FIXTURES

SATURDAY: CRAWLEY (A) L1
JAN 17: SHEFF UTD (H) L1
JAN 24: BARNSLEY (H) L1
JAN 27: SCUNTHORPE (A) L1
JAN 31: CREWE (A) L1
FEB 7: BRISTOL CITY (H) L1
FEB 9: BRADFORD CITY (A) L1

LEAGUE ONE TABLE

			Home					Away						
	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Swindon	24	7	3	2	21	12	7	3	2	25	12	22	48
2	Bristol Cit	23	8	2	1	19	9	6	4	2	23	13	20	48
3	Preston NE	23	6	4	1	20	12	7	2	3	16	9	15	45
4	MK Dons	22	8	2	2	33	12	5	3	2	15	10	26	44
5	Bradford	23	4	3	5	15	16	6	3	2	16	10	5	36
6	Sheff Utd	22	4	4	3	12	10	5	2	4	16	16	2	33
7	Chesterfield	23	5	3	3	16	14	3	5	4	16	17	1	32
8	Port Vale	24	6	2	4	18	16	3	3	6	13	17	-2	32
9	Rochdale	23	3	3	6	13	16	6	1	4	26	15	8	31
10	Notts County	22	3	2	6	12	16	5	5	1	15	8	3	31
11	Peterborough	23	4	3	5	14	16	5	1	5	16	13	1	31
12	Fleetwood	24	4	6	2	14	12	4	1	7	11	12	1	31
13	Walsall	24	4	4	4	13	12	3	5	4	10	12	-1	30
14	Oldham	22	5	3	3	16	16	2	6	3	13	17	-4	30
15	Doncaster	22	2	3	5	8	13	6	3	3	15	14	-4	30
16	Coventry	24	4	5	3	13	14	3	3	6	13	17	-5	29
17	Barnsley	22	4	2	5	21	21	3	3	5	11	14	-3	26
18	Scunthorpe	21	4	1	5	11	16	3	4	4	17	20	-8	26
19	Leyton Orient	23	2	3	6	15	17	4	4	4	17	17	-2	25
20	Gillingham	24	4	4	4	17	18	2	3	7	11	19	-9	25
21	Crawley	23	4	4	4	12	17	1	4	6	9	19	-15	23
22	Crewe	23	4	3	5	11	18	2	2	7	9	23	-21	23
23	Colchester	23	2	2	7	12	20	3	4	5	15	20	-13	21
24	Yeovil	23	1	4	7	5	19	4	1	6	14	17	-17	20

MKSPORT

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ICE HOCKEY

Fans help sign Connolly

LIGHTNING head coach Nick Poole has thanked the club's fans for helping to facilitate the signing of John Connolly from Chelmsford Chieftains.

And it's in no small part thanks to the financial backing of the MKL Supporters' Club.

Funding raised by the Supporters' Club from membership fees, prize draw and shirt raffle tickets as well as social events have helped cover the costs.

Hailing from Paisley in Scotland, 23-year-old John has represented Great Britain at U18 and U20 levels, and brings with him experience gained in the US and Kazakhstan as well as EPL, Elite and NIHL in this country.

"He is incredibly keen to play at the highest level possible and after icing for us he felt that he belongs in the EPL," said Poole.

"He makes us a better team and he is a young player I want to see with us for years to come.

"He's very composed on the puck and will immediately add to us both defensively and in the transition from defence to offence.

"We've been disappointed by our first half of the season, so with John joining the team and after a healthy Christmas break, we'll aim to hit the ground running in the New Year.

Thrashing: Invicta Dynamos were put to the sword by MK Lightning on Saturday.
Picture by Jez Tibbetts

"If we didn't have the fans we simply wouldn't be as competitive as we are."

MK Lightning's poor run of form continued at the weekend - despite a meaningless 10-2 destruction of lower league Invicta Dynamos on Saturday.

The win was of little consequence to the city outfit's English Challenge Cup as they were relying on other results to enable their qualification for the latter stages. Those hopes were eventually extinguished the following day while Lightning were taking on bottom placed Bracknell Bees.

The clash with Bees was one Lightning targeted for a win - instead they went down 4-3.

BADMINTON

Stars prepare for the year ahead

THE long road to Rio begins in earnest this year as the city's badminton stars prepare for a busy year ahead when qualification starts.

Fans will have a chance to see England's new elite pairings for the first time when the National Badminton Championships return to Crawley, Sussex for the first time in nearly 30 years.

MK-based Rajiv Ouseph, England's number one, will also be vying for his eighth men's singles title in Sussex.

Ten days later, England will face Ireland and hosts Belgium in the group stages of the European Mixed Team Championships.

The Championships will be played in Leuven, Belgium from February 11 to 15 between Europe's top 12 teams and England will be hoping to improve on the bronze medal they won in Moscow in 2013.

All eyes will then be on the YONEX All England Open Badminton Championships, which will take place at the Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham between March 3 and 8.

For the first time, the YONEX All England will also be the first MetLife BWF World Superseries event of the 2015 season. The Victor Korea Open and Maybank Malaysia Open – Superseries and Superseries Premier events respectively, will take place later in the year and not in January as in previous years.

The following month will culminate with the conclusion of the inaugural National Badminton League (NBL) with the top four teams progressing to the one-day knockout finals competition.

Milton Keynes currently lie fourth in the table with four match nights remaining.

From innovation to Indonesia finally, as the World Championships are staged in Jakarta from August 10 to 16.

Title chase: Rajiv Ouseph will be hoping to win for the eight time

RUGBY

Bletchley suffer with tricky start to New Year

BLETCHLEY'S woes continued in South West 1 East as they were thumped 74-0 in their first game of 2015.

In fairness to Bletchley, who are bottom of the table having failed to win a single game all season, they were up against table-toppers Chippenham, who have opened up a 14-point lead at the summit of the league, so their task always looked like it was going to be a difficult one.

Chippenham surpassed 500 points for the season on a difficult afternoon for Bletchley.

The first try of the day came after just five minutes when Aminiasi Titoko crashed over for the game's first score, with the conversion missed by Sam Saunders.

Alex Cox, Luke Corbett and scrum half Lewis Surry all scored to ensure that Chippenham had their bonus point before the first half had even come to an end.

Surry quickly added another try after the interval, before Jimmy Owen and Dom Riccio scored to put the league leaders 41-0 up at half time.

Another 19 points were added to Chippenham's tally within the first 25 minutes of the re-start, and two more converted tries rounded off yet another miserable afternoon for the league's basement side.

Bletchley's next game is at home to fellow strugglers Devizes, who are second from bottom having only won twice all season, and anything but a win in that game will mean that Bletchley's fate is looking all but sealed.#

It represents as good a chance as any Bletchley have of picking up a win this season.

Milton Keynes will travel to Marlow in the Southern Counties North on Saturday as they resume their campaign in 2015, while in Midlands 2 East (South), Olney face a tough test as they are away to league leaders Northampton Old Scouts.

SPORTSSHORTS

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

OLNEY Town lost 2-1 to Oakley United in the Berks & Bucks County Intermediate Cup after Sam O'Neill had given Town the lead.

In Division One of the Spartan South Midlands League, Stony Stratford Town drew 3-3 with Edgware Town.

ATHLETICS

THE Buckinghamshire County cross-country championships were held around the grounds of Hughenden Manor near High Wycombe, and there was the usual good medal haul for MMKAC.

There was one individual gold, six individual silvers and three bronze medals. Three team golds were won along with four team silvers and one team bronze.

Steve Tuttle won the individual gold, while the senior ladies retained their title to win their 8km event. The U15 boys and U17 men also won gold medals for the club.

MMKAC also had two runners in the Northants championships held at Wellingborough. Rhona Grant won bronze in the under 13 girls event and Daniel Hynes placed 7th in the under 17 men's race.

HANDBALL

THE Oly Cats development squad started 2015 with a bang as they recorded a 29-17 win over the previously unbeaten Loughborough 2s on Sunday afternoon.

The team resumed their Midlands Men's Regional Development League campaign in Leicestershire after a two-month break, against a Loughborough 2s side that sat in fifth place, just one position below the Oly Cats in the table.

Head coach Bobby White saw his side start brightly, preventing their opponents from obtaining a foothold in the match, and they led from the early stages.

With Loughborough doing a fine defensive job on the Oly Cats' experienced players, the younger members of the squad took control of proceedings and helped White's men pull away in the second half, eventually cruising to a 29-17 win.

The Oly Cats are next in action on Sunday 1st February, when the development squad once again take on Loughborough 2s, this time in Brighton, with throw-off scheduled for 11.30am.

HOCKEY

MILTON Keynes ladies will resume their South Clubs' Women's Hockey League Division 3A campaign this Saturday when they travel to Wycombe on Saturday.

EQUESTRIAN

THE Milton Keynes Equestrian Centre's New Years Day Showjumping took place last Thursday, with Lucinda Oakey and Robbie winning the class one 30cm to 40cm category.

In class two Eloise Burden won on Robbie, while class three saw Amazing Grace and Skye Brumpton win.

Delphie and Georgina Sharpe-Harris came out on top in class four and five, with Shannon Taylor winning on board Summer Blaze in class six.

Class seven was won by Johnny Matty and Faye Gilbert, and the eighth class saw Becca Holland on Brandy & Red prevail.

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Shuttle service as badminton star aims for another title - page 75

Stand and deliver: Dons boss Karl Robinson has his sights set on expanding his strike force

Robbo wants more players for title charge

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

DONS boss Karl Robinson says he'd like to bring in four players during the January transfer window, but he's also conscious about keeping the players he's got.

Dele Alli is constantly linked with other clubs, but Robinson is also keen to make sure that strikers Will Grigg and Benik Afobe will stay at the club until the end of the season.

When asked about whether any players will be brought in this week, Robinson said: "Possibly – we're constantly in contact with players and it's about the protection of Griggy and Benik as well.

"There are a number of things going on and we're hoping we can dance our way through January unharmed.

"Our biggest result of the season could be for us to have the players we have now including Dele, Benik and Griggy.

"It's about keeping players but I'd like to add two or three as well."

A striker seems to be at the top of his list, despite the return of Tom Hitchcock from his loan with Fleetwood Town.

"Tom is back training with us and we're just monitoring him to see where he's at.

"It looks like he may have lost a bit of fitness to us so hopefully we can work on that and get him back up to speed.

"I still want another striker as well, so it's important that we work hard to find one.

"When you look at Preston they've got Beckford, Davies, Garner and Ebanks-Blake, there are an awful lot of good strikers out there and we know we're fighting against teams that have three, four or five strikers who are top-drawer.

"I think we maybe need a wide player as well as a left-sided defender, and cover in midfield.

"We have an idea of one or two players we want to bring in, and if Dele moves on then we'll have to do something else as well.

"I know one or two players will raise eyebrows if I can get them over the line but they're ones that will make us stronger."

Dons are sitting nicely in fourth in League One, with two games in hand on top side Swindon Town, and Robinson reckons Dons are the underdogs in the fight for promotion.

"It's nice to be in the top four and it's beyond our wildest dreams to be there.

"I would have taken it at the beginning of the season but I'd have been shocked.

"A lot of the teams around us have cup games to play so we're hoping that has an effect as well."

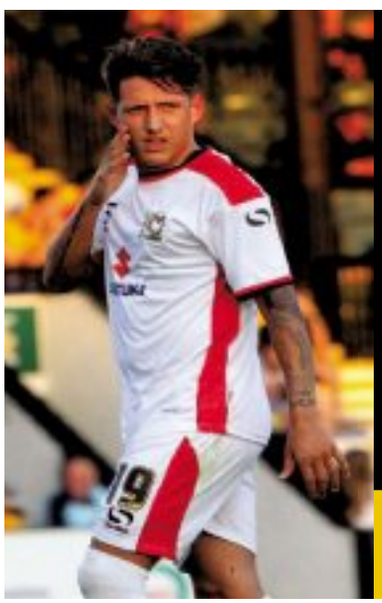
Dons travel to Crawley Town on Saturday, and Robinson is expecting a tough game, despite the Red Devils being in the relegation zone at present.

"We played them last year and it was a gritty performance and I believe it will be similar this time.

"We've read a number of articles that they're going to bring in a number of players this week and it will be one of Dean Saunders' first games at the club.

"We know they'll come at us with everything they've got and we've got a game plan already."

Meanwhile, Dons' trip to Scunthorpe United has been re-arranged for Tuesday, January 27 after the original game was called off on November 15, due to international call-ups of Dons players.



Code	Title	Venue	Start date	Day	Start time	End time	Length	Full fee	Concession fee	Brief description – download detailed course information from our website: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/clmk
Hair & Beauty										
G4D404XA	Basic Barbering Techniques	Rivers Centre	15/01/2015	Th	10:00	12:00	5 wks	£88	£69	Clip and trim new styles for men. Includes the cost of training head
G4A403XA	Hairdressing - an Introduction	Rivers Centre	12/01/2015	Mo	19:00	21:00	10 wks	£125	£113	Learn how to cut and style and get advice on colouring techniques. Includes cost of training head
Art, Crafts, Creative Writing, Dance & Textiles										
J4C433ZA	Art & Design Advanced - Portfolio Building	MK Gallery	14/01/2015	We	18:00	20:00	8 wks	£88	£70	Develop your skills while exploring personal themes and current trends
J4D443XA	Art Skills - Drawing & Painting	Rivers Centre	15/01/2015	Th	10:00	12:00	10 wks	£110	£88	New media and confidence building for learners with a little experience
J4B423XA	Art Skills - Drawing & Painting	Rivers Centre	13/01/2015	Tu	19:00	21:00	10 wks	£110	£88	New media and confidence building for learners with a little experience
J4F429XA	Creative Computing - Photoshop Elements	Rivers Centre	07/02/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Adding Photoshop techniques to existing artwork and photographs
J4F439XA	Creative Digital Photography - Getting to grips with your digital camera	Rivers Centre	21/02/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	All day cameras - no computers! Gain confidence using your camera's functions
J4G429XA	Creative Textiles - Indigo Dyeing & Shibori Workshop	Rivers Centre	21/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£45	£37	Knot, tie and dye to create unique fabric lengths for fashion or furnishing; fee includes basic materials
J4B410WA	Creative Writing - Novel Writing for Beginners	MK Academy	20/01/2015	Tu	19:00	21:30	8 wks	£110	£88	How to structure, plan and write for a range of genres and audiences
J4F411XA	Creative Writing - Short Stories - an Introduction	Rivers Centre	07/02/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Insights into plot construction and characterisation
J4D416XA	Dance - Ballet - Beginners	Rivers Centre	08/01/2015	Th	18:15	19:15	11 wks	£60	£48	Basic barre work for beginners or those who haven't practised since childhood
J4C417XA	Dance - Ballet - Improvers	Rivers Centre	07/01/2015	We	20:45	21:45	11 wks	£60	£48	For learners moving on from Ballet - Beginners
J4A401XA	Dance - Ballroom & Latin American - Absolute Beginners	Rivers Centre	12/01/2015	Mo	19:00	20:00	10 wks	£55	£44	Tango, waltz or cha-cha-cha - the choice is yours
J4A402XA	Dance - Ballroom & Latin American - Improvers	Rivers Centre	12/01/2015	Mo	20:15	21:15	10 wks	£55	£44	Move on from beginners to learn new dances and improve your technique
J4D419XA	Dance - Tap - Advanced	Rivers Centre	08/01/2015	Th	20:45	21:45	11 wks	£60	£48	For learners moving on from Tap Intermediate
J4C421XA	Dance - Tap - Beginners Plus	Rivers Centre	07/01/2015	We	18:15	19:15	11 wks	£60	£48	For learners who have a little tap knowledge and those moving on from Tap - Absolute beginners
J4D420XA	Dance - Tap - Improvers	Rivers Centre	08/01/2015	Th	19:30	20:30	11 wks	£60	£48	For learners moving on from Tap Beginners
J4C422XA	Dance - Tap - Intermediate	Rivers Centre	07/01/2015	We	19:30	20:30	11 wks	£60	£48	For learners moving on from Tap Improvers
J4A445XA	Dance - Tap Absolute Beginners	Rivers Centre	12/01/2015	Mo	13:30	14:30	10 wks	£55	£44	For absolute beginners and for those returning from a long break
J4F444XA	Drawing with Pen & Ink - an Introduction	Rivers Centre	14/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Experience the delights of working creatively with this expressive medium
J4A441XA	Dressmaking Improvers	Stantonbury Campus	12/01/2015	Mo	19:00	21:00	10 wks	£110	£88	For confident sewers - adapt patterns for improved fit. You will need your own machine
J4C445ZA	Illustrating Stories and Poetry	York House	14/01/2015	We	19:30	21:30	10 wks	£110	£88	Develop your visual vocabulary, create characters and show narrative through hand-drawn images
J4F403LA	Inspired by the drawings of Van Gogh	Stony Stratford Library	24/01/2015	Sat	13:30	15:30	1 day	£15	£13	Explore the drawings of Van Gogh through mono printing; fee includes basic materials
J4F404LA	Inspired by the Impressionists	Stony Stratford Library	14/03/2015	Sat	13:30	15:30	1 day	£15	£13	Explore the work of Renoir, Monet and others; fee includes basic materials
J4F434XA	Kiln Glass - an Introduction	Rivers Centre	07/02/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	First steps in fusing clear and coloured glass to make small decorative items
J4C432XA	Landscape Techniques in Watercolour - Beginners/Improvers	Rivers Centre	14/01/2015	We	12:30	14:30	10 wks	£110	£88	Step-by-step guidance to product finished landscape paintings
J4C431XA	Landscape Techniques in Watercolour - Intermediate/Advanced	Rivers Centre	14/01/2015	We	10:00	12:00	10 wks	£110	£88	For experienced learners who are confident in landscape techniques
J4B408XA	Life Drawing - Advanced	Westbury Arts Centre	14/01/2015	We	19:00	21:00	10 wks	£140	£118	For learners with some previous experience of drawing who want to focus on the figure; fee includes model costs
J4D429XA	Machine Embroidery - Beginners	Rivers Centre	15/01/2015	Th	13:00	15:00	10 wks	£110	£88	Create textile art using free machine stitchery.
J4D407XA	Machine Sewing - Beginners	Rivers Centre	15/01/2015	Th	10:00	12:00	5 wks	£55	£44	Simple practical or seasonal projects for those new to using a machine
J4D447XA	Machine Sewing - Beginners	Rivers Centre	26/02/2015	Th	10:00	12:00	5 wks	£55	£44	Simple practical or seasonal projects for those new to using a machine
J4B436XA	Painting - Acrylics for All	Rivers Centre	13/01/2015	Tu	10:30	12:30	10 wks	£110	£88	Develop skills using this fast drying and practical medium
J4C400CA	Painting - Acrylics for All	Stantonbury Campus	14/01/2015	We	19:00	21:00	10 wks	£110	£88	Develop skills using this fast drying and practical medium
J4A446XA	Painting in Oils	Rivers Centre	19/01/2015	Mo	10:00	12:30	8 wks	£110	£88	A flexible mixed level approach to using this medium
J4F413XA	Portrait Painting - An Introduction	Rivers Centre	24/01/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	How to capture likeness through understanding anatomy, shape and form; fee includes model costs
J4F437XA	Sculpture - an Introduction	Rivers Centre	21/02/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£45	£37	Clay modelling for beginners; fee includes basic materials
J4G252XA	Sculpture from Found Objects	Rivers Centre	31/01/2015	Sat	11:00	15:00	1 day	£27	£22	Playful and inventive approaches to 3D construction
J4F438XA	Silk Painting for Beginners	Rivers Centre	28/02/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£45	£37	New techniques and media for both fine and textile artists; fee includes basic materials
J4F435XA	Singing - Find Your Voice	Rivers Centre	14/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Have a go at singing in a relaxed and friendly group with no pressure to perform on your own
J4D449XA	Stained Glass - Advanced	Rivers Centre	15/01/2015	Th	19:00	21:00	10 wks	£110	£88	For learners with some experience who want to refine their skills and develop their creativity
J4F414XA	Stained Glass - an Introduction - Leaded Panels	Rivers Centre	07/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Cut and join glass safely to create a small traditional panel
J4D450XA	Upholstery - Intermediate - Small Group	Rivers Centre	08/01/2015	Th	19:00	21:30	8 wks	£216	£173	Work in a group of no more than 5 to complete more ambitious projects
J4C424XA	Watercolour - Beginners	Rivers Centre	14/01/2015	We	13:00	15:00	10 wks	£110	£88	For learners with some drawing experience: develop basic skills with this delightful medium
J4D428LA	Watercolour Painting For All	Stony Stratford Library	15/01/2015	Th	19:30	21:30	10 wks	£110	£88	A flexible mixed ability approach with structured support for new learners
J4D451ZA	Watercolours & Other Media - Intermediate	MK Gallery	15/01/2015	Th	12:45	14:45	10 wks	£110	£88	New themes and approaches for learners moving on from Improvers

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Code	Title	Venue	Start date	Day	Start time	End time	Length	Full fee	Concession fee	Brief description – download detailed course information from our website: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/clmk
Languages										
M4F400XA	All Day French - Revive your Rusty O Level/GCSE	Rivers Centre	21/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Brush up your French for work or holiday
M4F401XA	All Day Spanish - Absolute Beginners	Rivers Centre	31/01/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Survival language for busy people
M4C403XA	French - Intermediate	Rivers Centre	14/01/2015	We	10:00	12:00	10 wks	£110	£88	For learners who have completed 120 hours in the recent past
M4B402XA	French - Advanced	Rivers Centre	13/01/2015	Tu	10:00	12:00	10 wks	£110	£88	A chance to develop reading, writing and grammar as well as speaking and listening skills
M4D410XA	German Improvers	Rivers Centre	15/01/2015	Th	19:00	20:30	10 wks	£84	£66	For learners who have completed 40-60 hours in the recent past
M4D411XA	Italian - Improvers	Rivers Centre	15/01/2015	Th	19:00	20:30	10 wks	£84	£66	For learners who have completed 40-60 hours in the recent past
M4B413WA	Italian - Intermediate	MK Academy	13/01/2015	Tu	19:00	21:00	10 wks	£110	£88	For learners who have completed 120 hours in the recent past
M4B414XA	Japanese - Moving on to Advanced	Rivers Centre	13/01/2015	Tu	19:00	21:00	10 wks	£110	£88	For learners who have completed an Intermediate course in the recent past
M4E412XA	Lip-reading (Mixed Level)	Rivers Centre	16/01/2015	Fr	10:00	12:00	10 wks	£110	£88	
M4B407WA	Russian - Advanced	MK Academy	13/01/2015	Tu	19:00	21:00	10 wks	£110	£88	A continuation course for those who have reached A-Level standard and wish to improve their speaking and listening skills
M4C408CA	Spanish - First Steps	Stantonbury Campus	25/02/2015	We	19:00	20:30	5 wks	£42	£32	For learners who have no knowledge of this language
M4B402WA	Spanish - Improvers	MK Academy	13/01/2015	Tu	19:00	20:30	10 wks	£84	£66	A continuation course for those who have completed the first term of Improvers but newcomers are very welcome
Business Skills										
Q4F414XA	Confidence and assertiveness building	Rivers Centre	21/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Improve your interactions and how you deal with challenges in work and social situations
Q4F413XA	Leadership - Managing a Team	Rivers Centre	28/02/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Ideal for those new to leading, managing or supervising others
MNBK2405	Manual Bookkeeping - OCR Level 2 Award	Rivers Centre	12/01/2015	Mo	09:30	12:30	13 wks	£250	£0	For learners who have completed Level 1 – extend the basic principles of the double entry bookkeeping
MNBK2404	Manual Bookkeeping - OCR Level 2 Award	MK Academy	13/01/2015	Tu	19:00	21:00	20 wks	£250	£0	For learners who have completed Level 1 – extend the basic principles of the double entry bookkeeping
Q4F405XA	Minute Taking Skills	Rivers Centre	31/01/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	6 wks	£40	£32	Learn how to take and present minutes effectively
Q4F406XA	Project Management - an Introduction	Rivers Centre	14/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	Including topics such as setting goals, scheduling, budgeting, managing project risks and executing the project
Q4B204XX	Sage Computerised Accounts - Level 3	Rivers Centre	13/01/2015	Tu	09:15	12:15	14 wks	£400	£400	Build on Level 2 and process more complex transactions using Sage Line 50 software
SAGE1402	Sage Computerised Accounts - Level 1 - Fast Track	Rivers Centre	14/01/2015	We	09:30	12:30	8 wks	£175	£0	Learn how to use Sage Line 50 software effectively
SAGE2401	Sage Computerised Accounts - Level 2	Rivers Centre	26/02/2015	Th	19:00	21:00	15 wks	£200	£0	Build on Level 1 and process more complex transactions using Sage Line 50 software
Q4F408XA	Social Media Networking	Rivers Centre	21/03/2015	Sat	10:00	16:00	1 day	£40	£32	How to use online social networks to develop contacts and promote your events
Q4B407WA	Starting up a Small Business	MK Academy	20/01/2015	Tu	19:00	21:00	6 wks	£66	£66	Consider the viability of your new business idea and find out what help is available

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